THE STORY OF
SIGMA NU

THE STORY OF SIGMA NU

A Narrative History of the Fraternity

1869-1926

By
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SECOND EDITION WITH SUPPLEMENT

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TO
THE YOUTH WHO
SHALL INCREASINGLY FOLLOW
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE FOUNDERS OF
SIGMA NU FRATERNITY THIS VOLUME IS
DEDICATED * * WITH THE FOND HOPE
THAT THE STORY IT RELATES MAY
STIR THEIR MINDS AND ENRICH
THEIR HEARTS, AS A ROMANTIC
ADVENTURE OF YOUNG MEN,
WHO CONCEIVED A NOBLE
IDEAL AND CLEAVED TO IT
BRAVELY AND LOYALLY
THROUGH THE YEARS

FOREWORD
AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE STORY OF SIGMA NU is a recounting of an adventure into the history and romance of the Fraternity's first half-century of existence. The record is continued through the greater part of Sigma Nu's sixth decade. The chronicles are merged into a narrative interspersed with philosophical consideration of causes and consequences of events. Personalities have been analyzed for the purpose of revealing motives along with the deeds of individuals. Life and action have been portrayed and scenes depicted, where it seemed thereby a clearer understanding of situations might be created. The aim has been to produce a narrative that will appeal to the average reader.

The author reluctantly undertook the task of writing a history of Sigma Nu. A repressive sense of humility was intensified by conception of the seriousness of the responsibility, and by realization that impenetrable barriers would beset the course of research. But an overwhelming consciousness of the need for a written history of the Fraternity prevailed against all restraints. Difficulties encountered and discouragements experienced were beyond comprehension. Yet once embarked upon the adventure, there was no turning back. Eagerness to find the way, that others might follow in chronicles of history the footsteps of the Founders and builders of Sigma Nu, stimulated perseverance in this task, to which three years of constant and intensive application have been devoted.

The Founders and most of their contemporaries had passed beyond the bounds of human intercourse when this venture was undertaken. A personal interview with J. Edwin Gott, Alpha No. 18, was the only one afforded with a member of Sigma Nu's first-year group. Gratefulness is expressed to Brother Gott for a day of delightful fellowship which brought forth many reminiscences that have been woven into the narrative. To William S. Mabry, Alpha No. 34, and to H. McD. McCue, Alpha No. 57, thanks are expressed for the use of pictures of early members of the Mother Chapter. Grateful acknowledgment is made to the Rev. William M. Walton, Alpha No. 54, for varied memoirs covering a period of four years, beginning with the second year of the Fraternity's existence.

Many of the biographical references contained in Chapters IV and V of this volume were contributed by Mr. Joseph R. Anderson, Historiographer of Virginia Military Institute, whose assiduity for over half a century in that self-

imposed responsibility has been matched only by his generosity in responding to requests for information. Mr. Anderson, a member of Alpha Tau Omega, was a classmate of the Founders of Sigma Nu. His personal recollections of early members of Alpha Chapter extensively augmented the data derived from his valuable records. Mr. S. Z. Ammen, founder of the Southern Order of Kappa Alpha at Washington College, now Washington and Lee University, gave the author a conception of the social and political influences prevailing at Lexington at the time Sigma Nu was founded. The pleasure and profit of a personal interview with Mr. Ammen are gratefully acknowledged. From "The Old Dominion", by Thomas Nelson Page, and from "The End of an Era", by John S. Wise, much information incorporated in the historical background of "The Story of Sigma Nu" was obtained. "Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities" was used extensively in the preparation of Chapter VI.

To Miss Nellie T. Gibbs, Librarian of Virginia Military Institute, is given this inadequate expression of appreciation for many favors rendered. Acknowledgment is made with thanks to Robert W. Massie, Alpha No. 80, president of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Military Institute, who was untiring in efforts to obtain pictures of members of Alpha Chapter and of places of interest in and around Lexington. Philip G. Omohundro, Alpha 105, Philip E. Yeatman, Alpha 113, and Dallas Flannagan, Alpha 120, contributed pictures and recollections which enhance the history of the later period of Old Alpha Chapter. From a detailed account of the Alpha revival of 1909, written by Ora M. Baldinger, Alpha 133, the principal facts concerning that important event were obtained. Gratefulness is feelingly expressed to these Brothers for the assistance which they rendered.

Research into Sigma Nu history was inaugurated by John Alexander Howard coincident with his founding of *The Delta* in 1883. In connection with the preparation of the first catalogue, Grant W. Harrington instituted historical investigation which he pursued throughout his official career of eight years. The Howard and Harrington historical collections were destroyed by fire, all original records of Alpha Chapter having been lost in the double catastrophe, which left the Fraternity without history archives at the end of the second decade. Systematic historical research was not resumed until early in the fourth decade, when Walter J. Sears became Grand Historian. The impetus from his efforts and the inspiration from his writings principally are responsible for what since has been accomplished. These three historians—Howard, Harrington and Walter Sears—blazed the trails of history which have been extended and ramified in this Story of Sigma Nu.

I. P. Robinson, Rawson Bennett and Clarence E. Woods ever were alert to uncover and to preserve facts of Sigma Nu history. Robinson's elaborate histories of Lambda and Beta Chapters distinguished him as Sigma Nu's premier Chapter historian. The files of *The Delta* abound in evidence of the interest of Bennett and Woods in matters of history. Extensive fraternity memoirs of Albert H. Wilson, written by request, were productive of much vital information and interesting sidelights of history, which have been incorporated in this volume. Articles concerning phases of Sigma Nu history written by the pre-

vious Grand Historian, Burton P. Sears, were guiding and enlightening. For a technical criticism of the manuscript of "The Story of Sigma Nu", the author is indebted to Harvey B. Hartsock, Beta Beta. To Francis M. Smith, Gamma Nu, credit is given for planning the make-up of the fore part of this volume.

An invaluable file of Chapter histories has been collected in connection with research attending the writing of "The Story of Sigma Nu". It was impossible, in the beginning, to determine to what extent or in what manner these Chapter histories would be utilized. They have proved helpful in supplementing the author's independent research into the history of each Chapter. But, for the most part, the wealth of material in the extensive file remains unused. It is proposed that these Chapter histories be compiled in a separate volume. However they may be preserved, these precious monographs will remain memorials to those whose labors produced this valuable adjunct to the archives of Sigma Nu history. It would be imprudent, were it possible, to commensurate relative praise due these Chapter historians. Without attempting to differentiate, to the following Brothers who have written Chapter histories or who in other ways have assisted the author of "The Story of Sigma Nu", gratitude without measure is expressed:

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JOHN C. SCOTT.

Indianapolis, Indiana
June 15, 1927.

PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION AND SUPPLEMENT

TEN years have passed since "The Story of Sigma Nu" brought into printed record the history of the Fraternity from 1869 to 1926. Ten thousand copies of the first edition of Sigma Nu's history have gone into the hands of nearly one-third of the Fraternity's total membership. This second edition is needed to meet the provision adopted at the Twenty-third Grand Chapter in Washington, D. C., in 1927, for circulation among all pledges of the Fraternity. Ten thousand copies of this second edition are being printed.

In his climactic comment to the first edition, Grand Historian John C. Scott wrote, "The Story of Sigma Nu is not ended". The hope which he there expressed that "The Story of Sigma Nu" might contribute something of interest and inspiration has been evidenced in the last decade of Sigma Nu's life, as we have attempted to reveal in the Supplement to the History.

The future history of Sigma Nu will be a simple matter to record as compared with the work of John Scott in the first edition of "The Story of Sigma Nu". *The Delta* now records much of the current history; whereas, the early history had its being before the founding of *The Delta*, and even the records of those early days were lost by fire and through lack of conception of the possible growth and influence of the Fraternity. Among Sigma Nu Historians John C. Scott must be given first place, for he gathered historical material and constructed the record on which later historians will depend.

This second edition of "The Story of Sigma Nu" is a reprint of the first edition without changes. The Supplement following is an effort to bring "The Story" up to date. It is presented with an apologetic reminder that facts do not become history so soon as those recorded in this Supplement covering the decade, 1926-36. We have been too close to the events of this decade to evaluate them properly in light of their effect on the life, growth and development of Sigma Nu. We do know that "The Story of Sigma Nu" has been our inspiration in preparing this Supplement; moreover it has given our brotherhood a keener appreciation of Sigma Nu's rich heritage.

The Pilgrimage to the Virginia Military Institute made in August, 1935, and described in the last pages of the Supplement to this edition, was a reincarnation of the ideals that motivated the founding of Sigma Nu. It is hoped that the account of this memorable historical occasion that climaxes this Supplement may sustain the inspirational effect developed in the concluding chapter of "The Story of Sigma Nu", thus making it a worthy addendum to that inspiring historical record. And so, as in the original narrative, it is again stated that "The Story of Sigma Nu" is not ended, for unceasingly new characters and new achievements develop as in the lives of generation after generation is perpetuated the influence of the imperishable ideals that the Founders of the Legion of Honor consecrated in the principles and purpose of Sigma Nu.

Indianapolis, Indiana
March 15, 1936.

CHARLES EDWARD THOMAS.

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CHAPTER I

The Land of Beginnings

THE romantic history of early Virginia, to which is traceable the origin of so much of our civil and political development, is richly imbued with colorful traditions involving early educational institutions in this country. The history of every Greek-letter fraternity reverts to this land of beginnings, since the first society of the kind was organized only half a dozen miles from the spot where Anglo-Saxon civilization first found lodgment on this continent. In a unique and peculiarly intimate way, the history of Sigma Nu Fraternity is related to this great Mother State, not alone by birth, but because of certain historic influences and events bearing on its beginning and marking it with characteristics that defined its purpose and determined its career. To reveal the significance of such influences, this story of Sigma Nu is prefaced by a review of certain facts of history, and by a recounting of events which anteceded the founding of the Fraternity, all of which must be taken into account in any endeavor to understand the situations affecting its beginning, and to appreciate properly the nature of the environment surrounding its birthplace.

The history of any community is a history of the people involved. Topography has its influence on history primarily in the fact that generally it determines the character of the people it attracts. Thus the settlement of Virginia was marked by contrasting elements of the people who developed the lowlands along the James River, and of those who settled in the rich valley regions beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains. Those who led the way in settlements along the historic James, where the land was described as "the most plentiful, sweet, fruitful and wholesome in all the world," were from the best class of English gentility. The Jamestown Charter was granted to men of rank and standing, and those associated with them also were of that order. The term "gentleman" was consistently evident in lists of immigrants, and this strain gave to Virginia society a distinctive aristocratic stripe that still is recognized. Grants of large tracts were made to these men on condition that they settle bodies of tenants upon them. As these parcels were taken over and developed in this manner,

each planter became a master, in a way a ruler over other men. Thus the system fostered class distinction, and the social life that followed settlements westward to the mountains was characterized by this feature.

Almost a hundred years elapsed before the settlements which began near the mouth of the James River extended as far as the Blue Ridge. Progress had been principally directed by the waterways, which afforded transportation and offered the easiest means of marketing and intercommunication. There was in the predominant sense of the settlers of this region a tendency to follow the course of least natural resistance. Consequently, when they reached the mountain barriers, whatever pioneering instincts they possessed were restrained by the prospect of difficulties which menaced further advance westward. Aside from spiritual misgivings, there was with them practical argument against the extension of their settlements beyond the mountains. Tobacco raising was their principal industry. Tobacco was associated so intimately with all their ideas of pleasure and profit that they thought in terms of nothing else. The seeming impossibility of marketing crops raised beyond the mountains was sufficient reason why their settlements were halted by these natural barriers. Hence it remained for another and sturdier people to settle the valleys beyond.

Notwithstanding difficulties which discouraged the idea of crossing the mountains, there was a fascination in the blue haze which hung over them that long had lured the eyes of the lowland settlers. Through instinct or tradition, it had come to their understanding that beyond the mountains was a land of beauty and promise. To the north where the ridges were less rugged, and where approach was not so forbidding, an intrepid tradesman first penetrated the barriers. He returned with such wonderful description of the beautiful valleys beyond that others were led to explore the new land. The first adventurer who went as far as the North River brought back a tale of a broad bottom overshadowed by forest-covered mountains; a vale more beautiful than all the rest; a region surrounded by variegated hills from which flowed clear streams that watered soil strangely free from forests, covered only by shrubbery and rich herbage over which herds of buffalo grazed. Its alluring beauty and promise did not tempt the migration of those already settled in other sections, however, and the first inflow of any consequence marked the advent of a new element in the colonization of Virginia.

At this period, a spirit of emigration was rife among Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, a people not amalgamated of distinct Scotch and Irish families, but direct descendants of Scotch who colonized the north of Ireland during times of religious disturbances in Great Britain. To them this new land had an appeal influenced by ancestral love of hills and highlands. It fulfilled their fondest dreams of a promised land of peace and plenty where they might worship God in their own way. Consequently, the Valley of Virginia acquired a true-blue strain of Scotch Presbyterianism which became indelibly cast in its customs and in its manners, manifesting itself in educational development and in political attitude as well as in religious affairs. Contrasted with life in the lowlands, their way of living was severely simple, their more democratic social life consisting principally of contact incident to devotional activities. The roots

of their religious principles were deeply grounded in education. Therefore, schools and churches appeared as soon as the necessary shelter of homes was provided.

The Jamestown settlers and eastern Virginia colonists also had been active in religious and educational development. Being mostly Englishmen of the Established Church, naturally they inclined that section to Episcopalian preference. Their first college, established at Williamsburg in 1693, was designated as "their Royal Majesties' College of William and Mary", and was placed under the care of the Bishop of London. These colonists were said to have been more Episcopalian than was the Motherland itself, and when a diocese was created in Virginia, the State's only college was strictly under control of the Episcopal Church. Consequently, there was a desire among the early settlers of the Valley to establish in their section an institution of learning conducted on Presbyterian principles. As a result, Mount Pleasant Seminary was founded in Augusta County. The name later was changed to Augusta Academy.

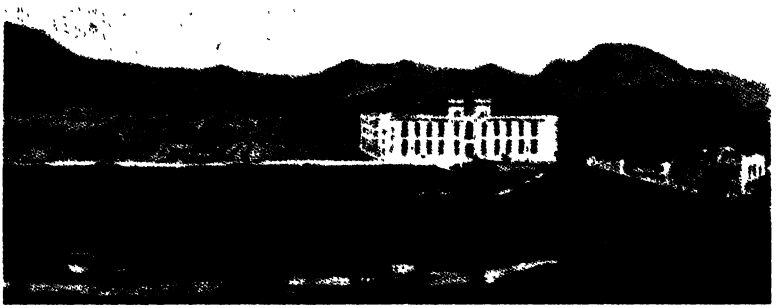
Politically, the Valley settlers were Whigs of unconquerable conviction. With the same spirit that their forefathers had resisted hierarchy, they detested civil tyranny; and they were quick to respond when the Declaration of Independence was signed. Their bravery and spirit was so manifest in battle that, in the darkest hours of the Revolution, General Washington declared that, if all others failed, he knew he could fall back to the Blue Ridge and recruit a force from the Valley with which he could defeat the enemy, and there establish the boundary of a free empire in the West. While the British flag still was floating over the capitol of Virginia, these patriots demonstrated their spirit of independence by changing the name of Augusta Academy to Liberty Hall. During the war this institution ceased to exist. When it was revived it was located in the newly created county of Rockbridge, whose capital was named Lexington in honor of those who shed first blood in the Revolution.

Discord over the control of the struggling institution added to the misfortunes of Liberty Hall Academy, and debts threatened its existence. The residents of Lexington interested themselves in its welfare, and secured from George Washington the use of one hundred shares of James River Company stock, valued at $20,000. This stock was a testimonial which had been voted to Washington by the legislature of Virginia, but which he had declined to accept for his own personal emolument, agreeing to its appropriation only that it might be employed in such object of public nature as he might suggest. Freed from debt, the Academy was revived, and later was moved from its rural location to the outskirts of the village of Lexington. Its name then was changed to Washington Academy in honor of its benefactor. It became Washington College in 1813. Thus the second college entered the background discernible in the setting of Sigma Nu history.

In the meantime another romantic struggle had brought to realization the dream of another illustrious Virginian. In 1783, Thomas Jefferson planned for his own county of Albemarle an academy of that name. For many years the project remained on paper, and in the perpetuation of a Board of Trustees which had been unable to make progress in the establishment of the Academy. At one

of the meetings of the board, when despair was great, Thomas Jefferson suggested that, since they had not been able to make an academy succeed, they should advance their ideas to the establishment of a college, and to this end he subscribed one thousand dollars. The venture of Albemarle Academy thus was merged into the beginning of Central College. The first Board of Visitors included Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and James Monroe, all of whom later became presidents of the United States. For several years a struggle in the legislature ensued over rivalry in the selection of a site for Central College, in which contest Lexington was a contender. The decision finally favored Albemarle County, where the germ of the movement had been conceived. There, from his nearby mansion, "Monticello", Thomas Jefferson had the satisfaction of watching his original plans work out in the harmonious beginning which became the University of Virginia.

At different times in the history of Sigma Nu Fraternity, these three pioneers of higher education in Virginia emerge from this background and become associated with events of importance in the story of Sigma Nu. Approaching directly the founding of the Fraternity, the history of a fourth institution, first to be famous, attaches itself inseparably to the history of this Fraternity. By

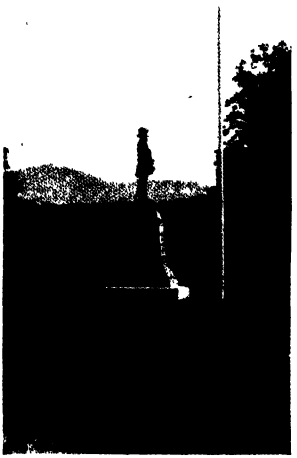


VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE
Stage coach and covered wagon in foreground on road connecting the grounds of Virginia Military Institute and the campus of Washington College, later changed in name to Washington and Lee University

act of the legislature in 1816, the State of Virginia established an arsenal at Lexington. A company of twenty-eight enlisted men, commanded by a captain, was organized for its defense. Guard duty and drill were their only military functions. Although discipline was strict, it did not control their conduct when off duty, and they became a very undesirable element in the community. Elimination of this objectional situation was advocated in 1834 by the Franklin Society, an incorporated literary and debating organization composed of prominent and influential citizens of Lexington.

The original proposition of the Franklin Society was for the establishment of a military school in connection with Washington College. The idea was to displace the arsenal guard with a company of young men who should receive

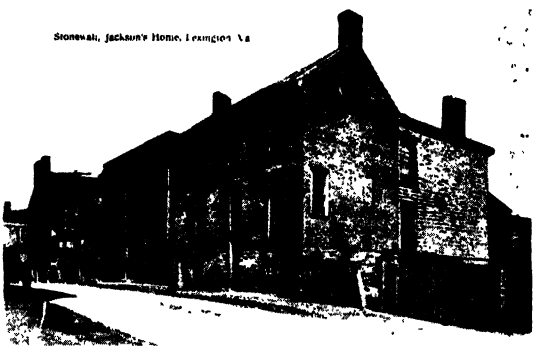
no pay, but in lieu thereof should have afforded them the opportunities of a liberal education. An act based on this suggestion was passed by the legislature, but later it was repealed as assuming illegal control over Washington College and interfering with its corporate rights. In 1839, another act was passed authorizing an independent organization, and providing for such arrangements with Washington College as might be agreed upon between the two institutions. This was the beginning of Virginia Military Institute. The first president of its Board of Visitors was formerly a professor of the United States Military Academy. The first superintendent was a distinguished graduate of West Point. In curricula and in general management the Institute was modeled after the Academy. In standard and in achievement it attained a reputation second only to the United States Military Academy, and became known as the "West Point of the South."



STANDING LIKE A STONE WALL

Statue of General T. J. "Stonewall" Jackson in front of V. M. I. Barracks

The fame of Virginia Military Institute was gloriously justified by the record of its graduates who served as officers in the Civil War, commanding one-tenth of the armies of the Confederacy. This remarkable record is made more noteworthy by the fact that before the war none but resident Virginians were admitted as matriculates. As representatives of the State's military, cadets of Virginia Military Institute participated in the first blow of the war, sixty-four serving as infantrymen and twenty-one manning two howitzers, all of whom appeared in red flannel shirts as part of the picturesque array attending the execution of John Brown.



RESIDENCE OF GENERAL "STONEWALL" JACKSON, LEXINGTON, VA.

Commanding on that occasion was Major T. J. Jackson, "Stonewall", as later he became known. "Old Jack", as he was familiarly known about the Institute, was a nickname not altogether affectionate, although not wanting in respect. While Major Jackson lacked tact to get along with his classes, every officer and cadet respected him for his sterling qualities. For ten years he had been connected with the Institute, at first having had charge of classes in mathematics and experimental philosophy. But as a teacher of these subjects

he was not a success. In charge of the Cadet Battery, he gave instruction in artillery and in the preparation of ordnance. His genius was in the science and art of war, as was manifest in the two years of his military glory, and in the proficiency of his pupils, who brought fame to Virginia Military Institute.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, officers and cadets were quick to offer their services to the Confederacy, and many were accepted immediately. The Institute was closed in May, 1861, when the cadets were ordered to Richmond by state authorities to serve as drill masters for infantry troops arriving at Camp Lee. A detachment also was sent to Harper's Ferry for this purpose, and a detail was assigned to drill battalions of artillery as they were organized at Richmond College grounds. Twenty thousand troops thus were prepared by them for service in the first great battle of Manassas. In January, 1862, the Institute again was opened, the cadets being prepared for war not only by drill and discipline at the barracks, but by marching and camping when summoned to aid in local emergencies. However, actual fighting was denied the cadets during the early years of the war, and their impatience and restlessness grew to such discontent that many of them deliberately sought discharge for deficiency in studies, or for neglect of duty, courting the penalty of being sent into the army.

"Good boys became bad boys to secure dismissal," later wrote one of the cadets in "The West Point of the Confederacy", "and as a result of these conspiracies regular hegiras would occur. Many a night have I paced the sentry beat thinking now of the last gay party that had scrambled to the top of the departing stage, commissioned for service; now enjoying the careless gayety of the veterans assembled in the officers' quarters, as from time to time their joyous laughter over campaigning yarns burst from the window of some tower room; then hoping against hope, as it seemed, for the day, when, like them, I would be a soldier indeed."

The coming of that day for the cadets is thus vividly recounted by the same author:

"The last rays faded upon the neighboring peak of House Mountain. The evening guns boomed out upon the stillness. The colors of the Institute dropped lazily from their staff. Never in all her history seemed Lexington and her surroundings more gently beautiful, more calmly peaceful. Such was the sunset hour of that lovely day on which we sought our cots, almost forgetful of the troubled world elsewhere. At midnight, save in the guard room at the sally-port, every light had disappeared. Suddenly the barracks reverberated with the throbbing of drums; we awoke and recognized the long roll. Lights were up; the stoops resounded with the rush of footsteps seeking place in the ranks; the adjutant, by lantern light, read our orders amid breathless silence. They told us that the enemy was in the valley, that Breckenridge needed help, and that we were ordered to march for Staunton at daybreak.

"Not a sound was uttered, not a man moved from the military position of 'parade rest'. Our beating hearts told us that our hour had come at last."

Newmarket was an important engagement, although not one of the great battles of the war. It remains one of the most memorable, however, on account

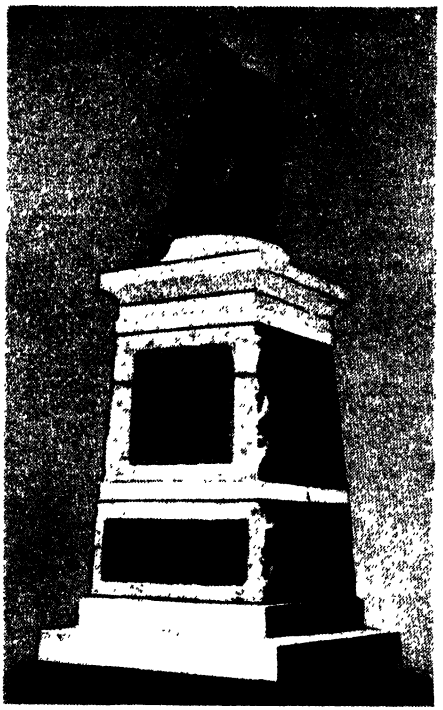
of the unique and romantic part played by the cadets. Mere boys, most of them under eighteen, they marched out of the gates of Virginia Military Institute at daybreak on the morning of May 10, 1864, with spirit as buoyant as was the springtime air that fluttered their colors of white and gold—full of hope and cheer as was the sunrise that shone on the turrets as many of them looked back on the towers for the last time. Disaster and discouragement that had depressed others had not touched the cadets, who went to war as full of confidence as the whole South had been after the first victory of Manassas.

The situation at that time was acute. Gettysburg had brought foreboding of exhaustion in the South, and had created determination in the North to end the struggle by a simultaneous advance from all sides. The Shenandoah Valley was being attacked from the southwest, and forces from the North were pressing down with threatening progress when the cadets were called to join the greatly outnumbered forces of the defense. For two weeks the Federal movement had been retarded only by cavalry skirmishes designed to delay them until the reinforcements could be formed. On the morning of May 15th the Federal troops entered Newmarket. The Confederate forces had retired from the village, hoping to draw the battle to their advantage along the hills to the south. Failing in this maneuver they took the initiative and began the battle of Newmarket. Attempting to magnify their numbers in the eyes of the enemy, their troops were marched and countermarched within sight of the opposing forces, and in the final alignment the cadets were left in the rear. It was evidently the hope of their commander to save these boys exposure to heavy fire. But as the battle progressed and the Federals were driven from the village, none could be spared in the assault upon the stronger natural position beyond the town, and the cadets were drawn into the center of the main battle line.

In its first advance, the Cadet Battalion was subjected to a fierce fire from the Federal batteries which quickly got their range. Shells bursting around the cadets caused several casualties, but their ranks were maintained and discipline was preserved as they pressed forward with precision of parade drill. In this magnificent fashion they continued their march for half a mile until ascending a hill they came to a plowed field, muddy from rains, where ankle deep over the uneven ground their feet could not maintain their double-quick time. In this difficulty the ends advanced slightly faster than the center, leaving the line crescent shaped. The order was given to mark time while the line was rectified. This maneuver was accomplished with admirable coolness, in the midst of terrible artillery fire the battalion moving in perfect order to within four hundred yards of the enemy's batteries. Here the loss was great. One shell killed three boys in the front ranks. But the gap was closed up quickly. An incessant and terrific fire of canister and shrapnel was poured upon them from the batteries, while infantry from fence corners and from a nearby grove showered them with lead. The cadets seemed to have rushed into certain destruction as they entered an orchard, where shells were tearing the trees to pieces.

Through this withering fire it seemed that not a living being could pass. The commandant was wounded. Some one gave the command to lie down, and

the cadets obeyed, still firing from the ground. It was at this deadly moment that Confederate rout was threatened by wavering or retreat on both ends of the line. The right had been concentrated upon as the supposed key to success, and there the veteran troops, after advancing through a wooded stretch, suddenly came out into a galling fire in the open, so terrific that some of the troops halted, wavered, then in confusion began a rout to the rear. Half the command had given way. Pistols were drawn to stop the stampede. Had the center then yielded the battle would have been lost. Instead, the order was given for the cadets to charge. Leaping forward and yelling, they faced straight for the enemy's guns. The influence of their action was irresistible. Yelling with them, the whole Confederate line rushed forward. A black thunder cloud, which had hung low over the lines, burst into torrents as the charge began. The elements themselves seemed affected by the scene. Driving rain and smoke clouds darkened the way. It was difficult to see far ahead except when lightning flashed. But the fire of the enemy's guns lighted the way for the cadets as they dashed up to the Federal lines wild with enthusiasm. Springing upon a gun carriage the color bearer waved their banner of white and gold. The battle was won!



NEWMARKET STATUE

Erected on the campus in memory of V. M. I. cadets whose lives were given in the Battle of Newmarket. Out of two hundred and ninety cadets who participated in the Battle of Newmarket, fifty-five were killed or wounded.

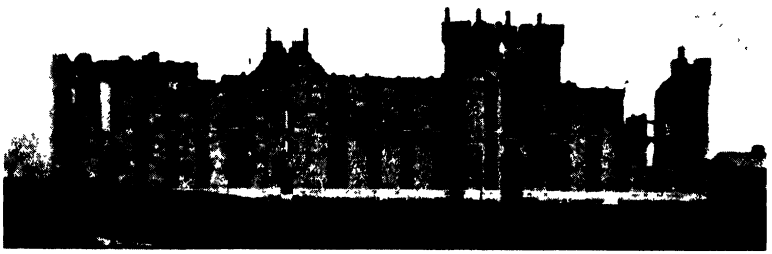
This charge of the cadets is one of the most remarkable episodes of all wars. They have been lauded as were the devoted few who stood in the pass at Thermopylae. In story and in song, they have been praised as were the noble six hundred who charged at Balaklava. That a body of youths, ranging in age from fourteen to twenty, called from the quiet seclusion of a military school, should stand the shock of their first battle unmoved; and pressing forward at the moment when veterans were faltering under the terrific fire, should take the advance and rally their forces to victory; this was the glory that made Virginia Military Institute famous throughout the land.

In after years when the government was considering the distribution of funds voted to assist state military institutions, the superintendent of Virginia Military Institute, on being introduced, reminded the committee of the statement made

by a Federal officer who claimed that the war would not have lasted half as long had it not been for "those damned military schools of the South."

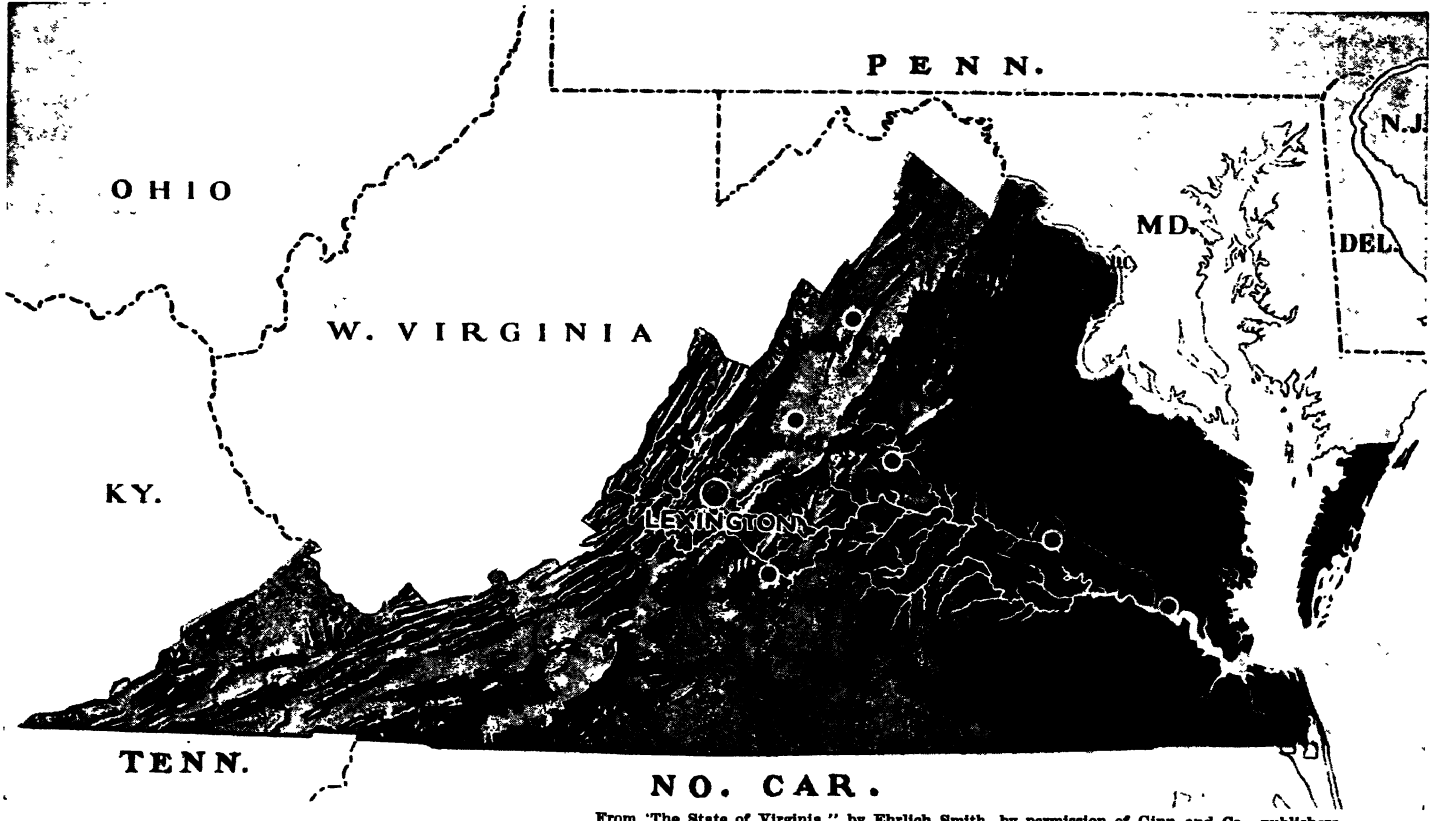
"Gentlemen," he added, "I am here to represent the damnedest one of the lot."

This compliment was implied by a Federal general less than a month after the battle of Newmarket, when at his order the buildings of Virginia Military



RUINS OF V. M. I. BARRACKS
Burned in a raid by Federal troops
near the close of the Civil War.

Institute were burned. They were rebuilt after the war. The course of instruction was enlarged and extended, and the institution took a place as one of the leading seats of learning in the South. Civil Engineering then was recognized as one of the greatest needs in reconstruction work, and in this department especially Virginia Military Institute excelled. In other branches of engineering and in scientific study its fame soon matched its military glory, and the best sons of the South were drawn to this shrine. Hence came the Founders of Sigma Nu.



From 'The State of Virginia," by Ehrlich Smith, by permission of Ginn and Co., publishers

TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF VIRGINIA

Showing the position of Lexington in the Valley of Virginia, the Allegheny and Blue Ridge mountain ranges surrounding.

CHAPTER II

Lexington

LEXINGTON lies midway in the Valley of Virginia surrounded by a picturesque array of mountain scenery uniquely varied and strikingly beautiful. The Blue Ridge is not a single well-defined range at this point. Its scattered peaks rise irregularly along the eastern horizon, revealing sloping expanses of pastoral beauty in between. "Kittochtinny" was the Indian name given these mountains, and in this valley, where buffalo and elk abounded, was located their favorite hunting ground. The absence of forests on the coming of the white settlers was explained as resultant from annual animal firings. Stretching across the west border of the valley, the long lines of towering Alleghenies range themselves in orderly contrast to the Blue Ridge Mountains, their azure-tinted tops merging into the haze above them, unlike the contour of the ridges opposite, whose waving outlines are so clearly silhouetted against the sky. Standing out in majestic isolation to the north, House Mountain lifts its broad back in bold relief, the most conspicuous feature of the surrounding



HOUSE MOUNTAIN
Revered landmark near Lexington. North River in the foreground.

landscape, and in local estimation a revered landmark. At its base the North River glides placidly into the panorama, winding its way leisurely across the valley until it rushes suddenly into the turbulent currents, where it joins the James at Balcony Falls.

Twelve miles from Lexington is the famous Natural Bridge, described as "God's greatest miracle in stone", and from which the county of Rockbridge derives its name. Near the town is historic Goshen Pass through which travelers by stage reached Lexington, and along which route in season many journeyed to admire the matchless laurel of that region, the rhododendron, the flowering dogwood, the redbud, and azalea, which adorned the hills around Lexington. Before a railroad was built to the town, the nearest station was twenty-five miles distant. The stage which carried passengers to Lexington was the old English type of coach supported on leather springs, with three benches inside and other seats on top, and a big "boot" behind to carry baggage. It was drawn by four horses, and had style. There was an element of adventure in this trip through the mountains and over the hazardous slopes of Goshen Pass, and a spirit of good fellowship was aroused during the hours consumed in the journey.

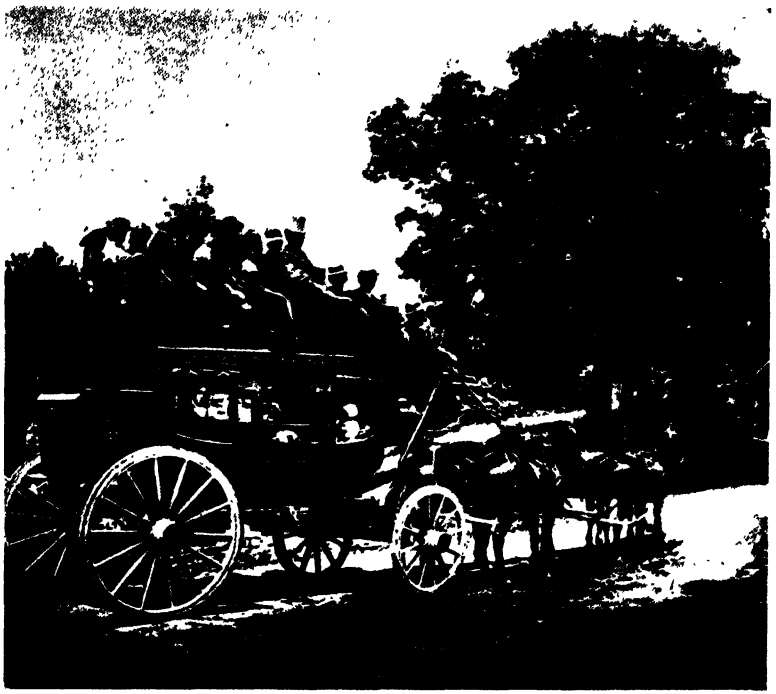


"GOD'S MIRACLE IN STONE"
Natural Bridge, near Lexington, which spans a river and supports a road connecting two mountains.

From the south, travelers came to Lexington by canal boat, a twelve-hour trip not as thrilling as the ride by stage, but equaling it in scenic attraction. The freight boats were drawn by two mules, a relief team riding between stations. Three horses pulled the packets carrying passengers, relay stations providing fresh teams along the way. The boats were given names of local or fanciful derivation, the "Nellie Letcher" bearing the family name of Virginia's war governor, whose home was at Lexington, the "B4NY" having the fastest schedule on the canal. The packets lacked the style of the stage coaches, but they were not wanting in color and charm, negro bowsmen furnishing music on the horns with which they warned lockkeepers of the boat's approach. A languid allurement was produced by the kaleidoscopic panorama slowly evolved along the route. The long and tedious trip to Lexington emphasized its remoteness, and there was psychological influence in both these picturesque ways of reaching the place that prepared the newcomer to appreciate a peculiar fascination pervading its environment.

Sequestered in this isolated retreat surrounded by such natural charm, it may be understood why those who lived in Lexington loved it, and why those who sojourned there cherished the spot. A feeling of self-sufficiency was fostered, and a tendency to independent thought and action developed. This influence

was manifest in the state of mind of the cadets, who came there from every section of the South. In temper the townspeople and student population embraced the extremes of Southern emotion and opinions. The residents of the



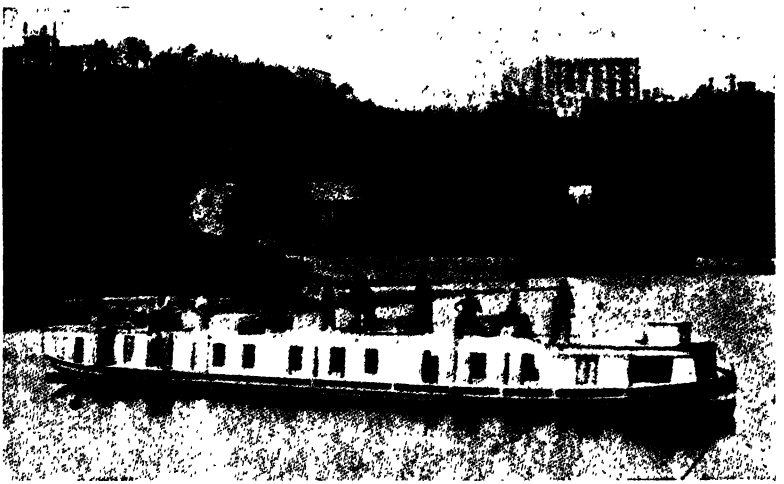
THE FOUR-HORSE STAGE
A stage coach line was in operation between Staunton and Lexington at the time Sigma Nu was founded.

valley mostly had opposed secession until the last; but when the issue was forced they became intensely partisan and they emerged from hostilities fiercely Southern in sentiment. The Washington College students coming principally from that region generally reflected local feeling; but the cadets representing every section of the South displayed the varying degrees of passion peculiar to the states from which they came. Thus the town became a cosmopolis of the South after the war.

In some respects Lexington assumed an advanced position in the attitude that was necessary to reconcile the South and to unite the country. Paramount in this influence was the presence of Robert E. Lee, who became president of Washington College, and who by conduct and with counsel urged moderation of feeling and a disposition of patience. Washington College was still quite local in complexion, but Virginia Military Institute was cosmopolitan in attendance. Since the two then had community of interests in many respects,

the cadets shared the inspiration and benefits of General Lee's influence, and through them its effect was widely disseminated.

In more than a spiritual sense, General Lee's presence in Lexington affected the local situation. Many distinguished officers who had been under his command followed their leader there in order that they might be near him, giving the benefit of their talents and their training alike to college students and to



HOW THE FOUNDERS OF SIGMA NU TRAVELED TO LEXINGTON
Canal boat on North River, V. M. I. Barracks in background. Picture taken in 1870.

cadets. Consequently Virginia Military Institute boasted of a faculty that was eminent in many lines. Illustrious among them was Commodore Mathew Fontaine Maury, of oceanographic fame, world navigator, writer of authoritative scientific texts, inventor of the lead used in the Atlantic cable, and who was said to have been the foremost scientist of his time. He was professor of physics at the Institute. Equally renowned was his associate, Colonel John M. Brooke, rebuilder of the "Merrimac" for its battle with the "Monitor", inventor of the Brooke gun and of deep-sea sounding apparatus, Pacific explorer, and prominent in the laying of the Atlantic cable. Every member of the faculty had been in the war, many of them bearing marks of battle. Colonel Lyell, assistant professor of mathematics, had lost an arm in infantry service. Colonel Cutshaw, adjunct professor of engineering, had lost a leg while an artillery officer.

Flame marks remained on barrack walls, a reminder of a lost cause. But the building which arose on the ruins stood prophetic of hope, however doubtful may have seemed its fulfillment at that time. Other buildings were being restored, but accommodations were inadequate to care comfortably for the increased attendance drawn to the Institute by its war fame, and because of its eminent faculty. Makeshift quarters were provided to accommodate the classes and to permit laboratory work, the library and chapel at Washington

College having been shared for a time. It was necessary to quarter cadets five in a room, and temporary cabins were built for officers. Discipline was not relaxed, however, and the Institute maintained its reputation in every respect. These handicaps were overcome rapidly because of evidence of popularity of the institution, and because of the need of training young men for the work of reconstruction.

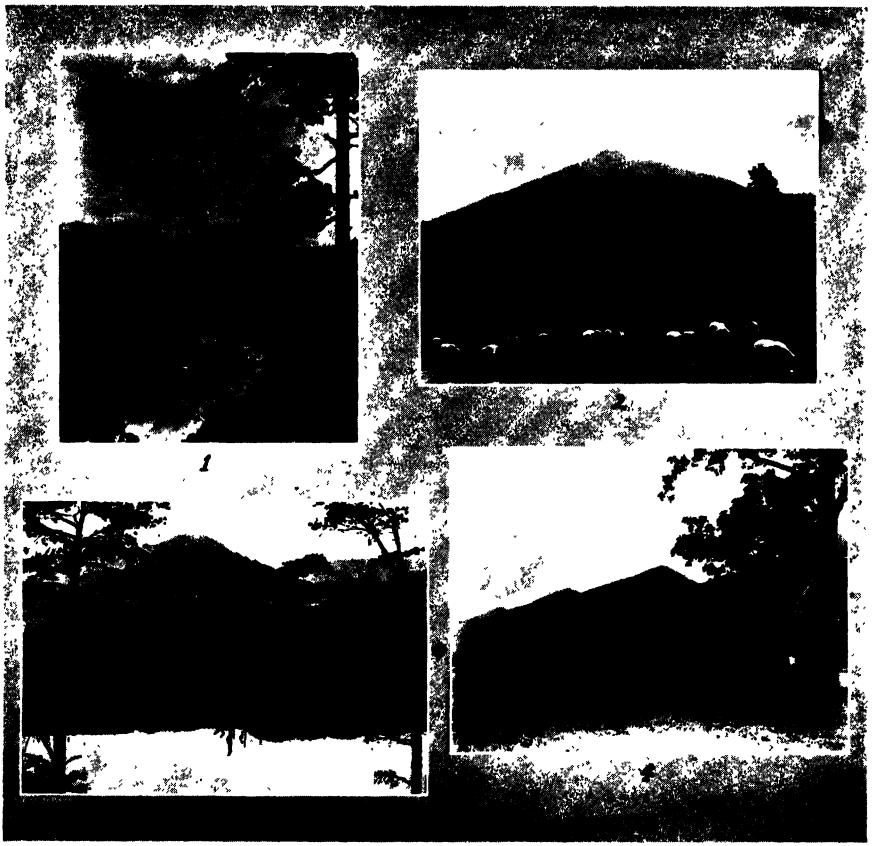
The South was then in a state of complete prostration. While despair was fostered by grievous situations resulting from political abuses, determination to combat adversity was strengthened by opposition to these very forces which caused despair. Lexington had its taste of carpet-bag rule, but was not forced to drink so deeply from this cup of bitterness as were some sections of the South. Odious elements from House Mountain settlements were imported to share the rule of foreign politicians in the courthouse. Although the experience was less offensive than suffered elsewhere, the presence of cadets from more aggrieved communities injected into local attitude extreme resentment over such conditions. This practice of political imposition, many believed, was evidence that the Federal government was unlikely to afford proper protection for the South in its pursuit of peace and happiness, and every secret organization designed to drive out these offensive elements was represented in Lexington.

Most of the cadets were more matured than was the average college student. Many had borne arms in battle. They were youths in years, but were more earnest and more thoughtful than most young men in college. Many of them had lived in what was then considered luxury, and had been reduced to circumstances that left them dependent upon their own resources to solve perplexities of the future. At that time much information was current about so-claimed advantages of climate and business conditions in Honduras. Among some young men of the South was a belief that in that country could be found the contentment and opportunities they thought likely to be denied them in this country. All this spirit of unrest was evident in Lexington, and it produced an element of tenseness in the complexity of the situation there.

Socially Lexington was very attractive after the war. Despite defeat and despair, there survived an afterglow of the old life which seemed to illumine society. The families of most of the ex-officers and professors were cultured and charming. The families of Robert E. Lee, of Virginia's war governor, and of one of the college professors who had been a member of President Davis's cabinet, were conspicuous examples of the social tone of Lexington. Much of the aristocratic grace of earlier Virginia society was illustrated in the manners of those who had come from the eastern section of the State. Locally there had grown up an aristocracy much respected by the masses, exemplar in sense of honor and propriety. Their manners were less gay, less elegant and less cordial than those affected by the brighter tone of English society. But among the residents of Lexington no social distinction in this regard was drawn.

In the disposition of native residents toward the cadets a different attitude was manifest. Having a Presbyterian Board of Trustees, and receiving its patronage principally from that region where Presbyterianism predominated, Washington College naturally reflected the circumscribed aspects of that denom-

ination and the austerity of its followers. While Virginia Military Institute was nondenominational in design, it had been controlled largely by Episcopalians since its beginning. Before the war, when only residents of the State were admitted, the majority of cadets came from the eastern part of Virginia, and this further established the faith of that section as predominant at the Institute. The cadets were broader minded and more matured than were the



By permission United States Forest Service

TYPICAL MOUNTAIN SCENES NEAR LEXINGTON

1, Balcony Falls, from top of Blue Ridge, Natural Bridge National Forest; 2, Sharp Top Mountain, from Peaks Road, N. B. N. F.; 3, Glasgow, from James River Road, North River in foreground; 4, Three Sisters Peaks, from North River Bridge, N. B. N. F.

college students. To Presbyterian townspeople they seemed more worldly—even wicked in their manifestation of levity incompatible with a solemn sense of the propinquity of death and hell. This predominance of Episcopal patronage that long had prevailed at Virginia Military Institute was neutralized after the war by the infusion of matriculates from other states.

Left to the choice of the four companies of cadets, which in turn attended churches of the four denominations represented in Lexington, the Episcopal church was still most popular, because its service was shortest. The rector of this church, who was formerly Chief of Staff under General Lee, was the one credited with the famous command: "Give 'em hell, boys, and God have mercy on their souls." The Baptist Church was favored by many on account of its reputation for pretty girls. The Methodist Church offered the advantage of a loft in the rear, reserved for cadets, where unobserved by the congregation they could match pennies and otherwise amuse themselves during services. The Presbyterian Church, prominently located on Main Street, and proudly regarded by its many members, was least favored by the cadets, because of the pastor's propensity for long sermons, which made the Company attending that church always late for Sunday dinner.

Hazing of fourthclassmen, "ratting" it was called, had been a custom of the Institute since its founding. Before the war it was an organized procedure recognized as being compatible with the system of discipline of a military college. On entering, the newcomer usually anticipated subjection to the experience. To resent it was to signify lack of the sense considered necessary to qualify for admission to the fellowship of cadet life. The conduct of the victim usually determined the manner and the extent of his hazing. If he accepted the experience with good spirit, he was less likely to be subjected to undue severity. If he showed a manly disposition to defend himself against unreasonable treatment, he was respected, and sometimes was given the chance to combat his tormentor on even terms. An upperclassman was always ready to second a "Rat", as the novice was called. If he won his battle and retained a degree of humility, the "Rat" became popular, and thereafter chores constituted the principal demands of his hazers.

The life of one who resisted and remained antagonistic to the system was almost insufferable, those afflicted with unyielding dispositions being driven out, or becoming so unpopular that their position was unenviable. The defense of the system was that these exceptions were unfitted by temperament to harmonize with disciplinary functions fundamental in military training. Immediate subserviency was not demanded. A certain amount of cleverness was admired, and proper spirit permitted a "Rat" to match his wits with his hazers. A story is told of a tall Texan who had been ordered to a room to undergo an ordeal in "ratting" in the presence of a group of upperclassmen. Commanded to climb upon a table and stand erect, the fellow obeyed. Asked if he could make a speech, his reply was: "No!"

"No sir!" demanded his chief tormentor.

"No sir!" he repeated obediently.

"Can you sing?" he was asked.

"No, I can't," he replied.

"No sir!" was again demanded, and "No sir!" was respectfully repeated.

"You can dance then, can't you?" was shouted, a sword beating close to his feet accentuating the inquiry.

"No—no sir!" was the reply which indicated willingness to adopt courteous response.

"Well, then I guess you can call hogs, and I'm going to make you call hogs," was the final order shouted with impatience.

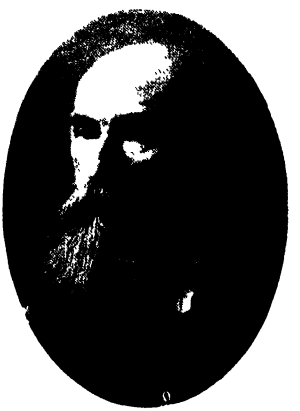




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EMINENT EDUCATIONAL LEADERS AT LEXINGTON WHEN SIGMA NU WAS FOUNDED

1, Francis H. Smith, superintendent of Virginia Military Institute; 2, Robert E. Lee, president of Washington College, which became Washington and Lee University; 3, Mathew Fontaine Maury, professor of physics at V. M. I., reputed to have been the most eminent scientist of his time; 4, John M. Brooke, famous inventor and world-renowned scientist, member of V. M. I. faculty.

"Yes—yes sir, I can call hogs," he admitted without losing his poise, "but there aint no sense in callin' the hogs when they're already here."

Aggravated by the Texan's complaisance, and infuriated by this retort, his tormentor leaped forward to avenge the insult. His companions halted him,

however, declaring that the fellow had displayed pluck, and that he was entitled to an orderly encounter at the proper place. Seconds were selected, and the fistic affair was scheduled for "Bloody Island" at daybreak next morning. Custom ordained that the winner of a "duel", as all fights there were termed, should precede his antagonist to the barracks. The return of the Texan in advance of his adversary next morning was the occasion for a reception that inaugurated his unceasing popularity among the cadets.

"Bloody Island" was not altogether bloodless, yet it was not as gory as its name implies. Being the "field of honor", and saturated by tradition, if not with blood, it was regarded with solemn affection befitting its name. Likewise the term "duel" was adopted in its broadest sense, signifying the most sanguinary intentions, yet usually culminating in a fist fight. Pistols were rarely resorted to, and when used were prepared by the seconds so that satisfaction could be obtained without bloodshed.

Stories of these "affairs of honor" were magnified before the "Rats" in anticipation of annually staging a favorite hoax. An insult was provoked or assumed by an upperclassman, and the prospective dupe was "called out" by his deceiver. Seconds were chosen, and the time was agreed upon. With the exchange of shots, the pretender dropped to the ground, in the action pressing a bulb that effused blood-colored liquid upon his exposed breast. The seconds rushed up to the make-believe wounded man and, agreeing that he had been mortally injured, they began a process of mental hazing that was carried on by the cadets as long as possible, and in such varied ways as developments suggested.

In one instance of the kind, a serious-minded victim, who was selected on account of this very attribute, was easily misled, and furnished much sport for his hazers up to the moment of the decision that a fatal wound had been inflicted. Confronted by the seconds with the horror of the situation, and being told with excited emphasis the deplorable eventualities he would be forced to face, the fellow remained unmoved, declaring that the affair had not been provoked by him, and that he had sought earnestly to avoid the duel. The most grewsome reminders failed to change his impassive attitude. Finally, when it appeared that there was likely to be chagrin instead of sport over the outcome, the hoax was revealed. The fellow's composure was upset by the disclosure, and his indignation was aroused. He declared he had spent a sleepless night reading his Bible and in prayer, not knowing whether he was to kill or to be killed. He insisted that his own self-respect had been assailed, and with the same earnest and serious manner that had caused him to be selected for the pseudo-encounter, he demanded the satisfaction of appeasing his own sense of honor with his fists, and immediately was granted the right and privilege. Seconds again were in action, this time in earnest. There was no farce in the fighting which followed. The "Rat" emerged victor, and, along with the satisfaction he sought, he won the admiration and respect of all the cadets. Thus it may be understood that "ratting" recognized valor as well as good spirit.

It was claimed that good-fellowship emanated out of this system as it was conceived, and as originally it was practiced and respected. An element of sponsorship prevailed as a part of the custom when it was inaugurated. Gen-

erally each "Rat" had an upperclassman to whom he looked for advice and counsel, and by whom he was guarded against undue hazing. This patron-cadet was sometimes a former friend, but often was one who adopted the protege because of some incident or attribute by which the sponsor had been attracted. The entire first year was the period of probation for the "Rats". It was with joyous anticipation that they looked forward to the last day of finals when they "dropped their tails", the figurative expression for that moment when the playing of "Auld Lang Syne" signified their advent into full fellowship as cadets.

After the war, this system of hazing lost orderly processes it had possessed, and became prostitute to the selfish purposes of members of a fraternity established there. This organization was started at Richmond, Virginia. Its first chapter was located at Virginia Military Institute, where one of its founders had been graduated, the others returning there as members of the senior class. They were all residents of Richmond, and represented characteristics peculiar to people of the eastern section of Virginia. Naturally their selections for membership came largely from that part of the State, and the organization in its beginning manifested ancestral attributes of these members.

Since matriculates previously had been confined to residents of the State, with a preponderance from the eastern section, this fraternity represented the old regime rather than the new element, and, involuntarily perhaps, set itself apart from the new order of things. Here the blood of the lowland settlers began to assert itself in the activities of the Institute. Inclined by nature to dominate, the members of this fraternity sought the offices of the Cadet Corps. Inasmuch as there was no organized opposition, they readily achieved their aims. Sub-professor members serving after graduation augmented their strength, and soon a sovereign set dominated the activities of the Corps. Hazing became a principal function of their presumptuous power, and the practice was debauched to the selfish ends of this secret society.

Regardless of which class was entered, every newcomer was subject to a year of hazing, one entering the sophomore year being known as a third-class "Rat". In the fall of 1866, when the real infusion of out-state matriculates began, practically all nonresidents were "Rats", and the functions of "ratting" were confined almost exclusively to cadets residing in Virginia. Thus the new secret society, by its assumed authority and abuse of its power, allied against itself many of the matriculates from other states. These constituted a potential force, but being unorganized their power was not apparent. To young men already matured by exacting experiences of real military service, and, therefore, immune from the need of disciplinary hazing, these indignities brought bitter resentment. This frequently took the form of combative resistance, and encounters lacking the order of "Bloody Island" duels resulted. Already bewildering with a maze of mysticism following after-war unrest, the local situation was acutely affected by the injection of this new element of secrecy and oppression, especially since it savored of exclusiveness and manifested arrogance. Consequently, feeling against this fraternity became intense. Suspicion was aroused by evidence of membership among sub-professors, favoritism being alleged and persecution charged. Western students in particular were wrathful under the

rule of this secret oligarchy, and one of them resisted its iniquities with such fearlessness and determination that he became the leader around whom a counteraction developed.

James F. Hopkins went to college without conceit, and with the rough edges of youthful crudity worn off. He needed neither taming nor trimming. He had learned in the school of war the lessons of humility and of subserviency to military discipline. In good spirit he accepted a reasonable amount of hazing as a part of the system affecting the novitiate class in which he was matriculated. But when he felt the force of unreasonable demands and recognized the existence of unethical designs, his self-respect was assailed, and his sense of justice revolted. In the conflicts which resulted, tradition tells that Frank Hopkins emerged victor, and that he won the respect of his adversaries as well as the admiration of the rest of the Corps. There was nothing pugnacious about his attitude. His manner was quiet and modest, and he was really very gentle in nature unless aroused by injustice. His defiance of overbearance was not confined to his own defense. He protected others from unreasonable and unfair treatment, and in so doing won the affection of his classmates. This popularity became generally recognized, the increasing body of fourthclassmen under his protectorate becoming known as "Hopkins's Rats". There was no organization of those included in this association, the term having been significant of an attitude rather than indicating an alliance. Nevertheless, a strong bond of friendship existed among that self-respecting following which honored Hopkins's name, and when "Auld Lang Syne" of their "Ratdom" days was sung at finals that year, no name was so affectionately reverenced and respected as was that of James Frank Hopkins.

Finals ended in those years on the Fourth of July. At the last military formation of the Battalion on that day, promotions and appointments were announced by the Adjutant. The highest rank in the third class was that of First Corporal. To this office Frank Hopkins was named, making him the ranking member of his class the second year. A dramatic incident in connection with official order marked the beginning of his duties the next fall. A disturbance in one of the rooms was reported one night, and the Corporal of the Guard was ordered to investigate. Fate decreed that Hopkins was on duty that night. Gaining access to the room, he found himself in a meeting of masked men, hooded and robed in white, their booted feet protruding in such contrast that at a glance the effect was startling. Only a glance was permitted, for with more abruptness than he had entered, the Corporal of the Guard was thrown bodily out the door. Breathless with excitement and fury, Hopkins rushed to the guard room, his incoherent report so emphasizing that apparition of "black feet" that the name attached itself for years to the members of the fraternity whose secret meeting had been officially interrupted.

This was the singular and spectacular beginning of the official career of Cadet Frank Hopkins. It was coincidence that connected it with the conflict of the previous year, and not a forecast of continued differences. Hopkins had no feeling against any legitimate organization properly restrained. Principle, not prejudice, had prompted his antagonism to perverted practices of this fra-

ternity, for whose righteous aims he had no censure. He believed in brotherhood. It was the incentive of his soul; the impulse of his spirit; the motive of his life. So compelling was this virtue that no enmity survived its appeal, and those who felt the uncompromising force of his fight against injustice during his freshman career found the unlimited beneficence of his friendship in other years.

CHAPTER III

The Legion of Honor

JAMES F. HOPKINS was born at Ripley, Mississippi, December 30, 1845, the son of Colonel John W. Hopkins and Elizabeth Craig. Colonel Hopkins came of distinguished Scotch-Irish ancestry conspicuous in the Revolutionary War. The Craigs were leading citizens of Tennessee, where Mrs. Hopkins was born. Her father, Hon. John C. Craig, was a soldier of rank in Indian wars and in the War of 1812, serving later as one of the Commissioners in charge of removing the Indians from Mississippi to Indian Territory. The elder Hopkins was born in North Carolina, and while still a boy moved with his parents first to Tennessee and then to Mississippi. Here he inherited his father's plantations, adding to them extensive tracts in Louisiana and in Arkansas until, at the beginning of the Civil War, he owned some 125,000 acres in these three states. In order better to manage his vast plantations and to provide education for his children, Colonel Hopkins moved to Memphis in 1855. At the outbreak of the war the family moved to Arkansas Post.

The younger Hopkins was then but a boy of fifteen, his age prohibiting immediate enlistment. He made repeated attempts, but it was not until 1864 that he was successful. Evading the picket lines of the Union troops, then holding possession of the territory around Little Rock, he was accepted as a private in Noland's Independent Troop of Cavalry attached to Anderson's Battalion of Fagan's Division. Young Hopkins had become an expert horseman while helping oversee his father's plantations. This skill and his unflinching courage marked him for perilous courier duty. He participated in several of the smaller battles in the closing year of the war, among them Pilot Knob, Independence, Jefferson City, Big Blue and Booneville. The private fortunes of his father were despoiled during the war, as were those of most influential men of the South who were active in its cause. However, means were afforded to send the soldier son to Virginia Military Institute.

The associations which had surrounded Hopkins during his freshman year extended to larger spheres of influence during his second year at Lexington. The friendships he had won, the homage he had earned, marked him with peculiar prestige as he rose to higher rank in the Corps. Had he chosen to capitalize this preferment in aims of personal ambitions, or with designs against the fraternity whose presumptuous abuse he had opposed. Hopkins would have had a powerful following to utilize. Every element of his nature was contrary to such desires, however, and the unsought influence he had acquired remained incorporeal throughout the first two years of his cadet life.

During this period, the recognized functions of hazing became disassociated from cabalistic control. Fortunately for the society which had appropriated the practice, its activities in this respect were modified, reception into its ranks of others than residents of the State broadening the aims of the organization, which became national in its aspirations. Extremes in the conduct of hazing still were practiced, however, and contention among the cadets over the aban-



HOPKINS, THE TROOPER
As he appeared in service as a Confederate soldier.



HOPKINS, THE CADET
As he appeared soon after entering Virginia Military Institute.

donment of the custom brought bitter division. The atmosphere at Lexington was still surcharged with agitation common to every community in the country, evident even in the nation's capital, where the President and Congress were then battling over policy and power. Respect for law was shattered, and many were settling grievances in their own way. Naturally, this ferment affected the mood of the cadets, making them petulant and impulsive.

A crisis came when one of the fourthclassmen drew a pistol on a party of hazers, who entered his room intent on continuing torment that already had exceeded reasonable limits. The pistol play had been anticipated, and was met with a blow that brought the fourthclassman to the floor. A rope had been exhibited, possibly intended only for effect. But in the frenzy of the moment the hazers lost what rationality they might have had, and the victim was hung over a door. The intention, of course, was for only a moment's suspension. But the rope caught in the door jamb, and turned travesty to tragedy. Pocketless trousers of cadet uniforms afforded no knife for instant release, and before one was procured the victim was almost strangled.

This affair brought decisive developments. A meeting of cadets was held in front of barracks to determine the will of the majority for or against continuance of hazing as a recognized custom. Representatives of both factions met in heated debate. The lie was passed and bitterness became extreme. A ballot box was placed in the sallyport, where the cadets voted their sentiments. A

majority of a single vote was recorded repudiating the practice. A challenge made during the debate overcast the issue after the vote, a duel with earnest and vicious purpose having been arranged. Official action placing the principals under arrest interrupted the affair, freedom having been granted the adversaries only when they signed an agreement pledging their honor not to fight the duel. The decision against hazing was binding only as an expression of protest. But these events served to sober judgment in the procedure, and the rationale which the name of Hopkins signified became the code of the system.



THE SALLYPORT
Entrance to V. M. I. barracks

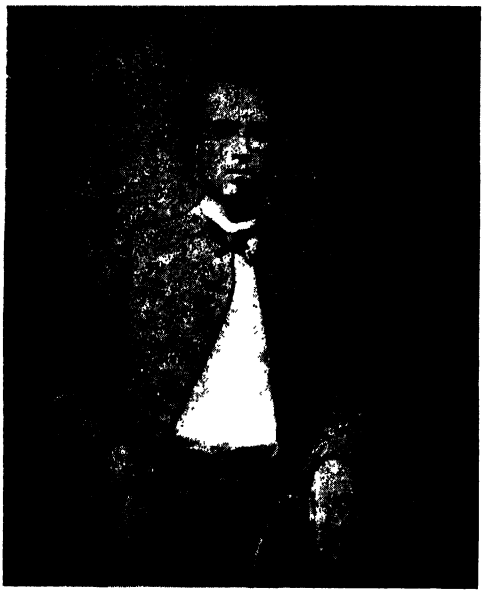
During this two years of readjustment in cadet life, Hopkins stood exemplar of the principles involved, rather than being active as a leader in cadet controversies. He was not an agitator. His stand against overbearance in his first year had been taken to preserve his self-respect, and had not been intended as the beginning of a crusade against objectionable conditions. His protection of others unduly imposed upon had been from charitable impulse, not with designing motives. His battles were usually fought single-handed. His modesty equaled his courage, for he disliked notoriety as much as he detested tyranny. While intensely democratic in spirit, he had an exclusive manner that did not invite promiscuous intimacies. He was companionable by instinct and habit, rarely being alone, yet seldom loitering in a crowd. He liked the fellowship of close communion, but did not seek the sociability of heterogeneous companionships.



REAR OF V. M. I. BARRACKS IN 1870
Founder Hopkins roomed on the third stoop of the east wing when Sigma Nu was founded.

In his first year at the Institute, Hopkins had joined the Honduras Emigrant Association, a secret organization founded on a wild dream of boys imitating elders in other sections of the South who were disturbed over political perplexities. While friendships were fostered in this association, its motives were not social, its oath being its principal bond of unity. The organization lost its incentive and became inactive as conditions improved.

It was not until his third year that the friendships which Frank Hopkins had formed and the principles for which he had stood united in their impelling power and gave him the conception of a lasting union founded upon his ideals of honor and fellowship. Impetus then was given the project by his initiation into the Lexington Lodge of Masons. The ritualistic ceremony impressed him, and being inspired by the objects of Masonry, Hopkins put into form his conception of an ideal Brotherhood, designed to preserve the friendships he had made, and destined to perpetuate the principles upon which these friendships had been founded.



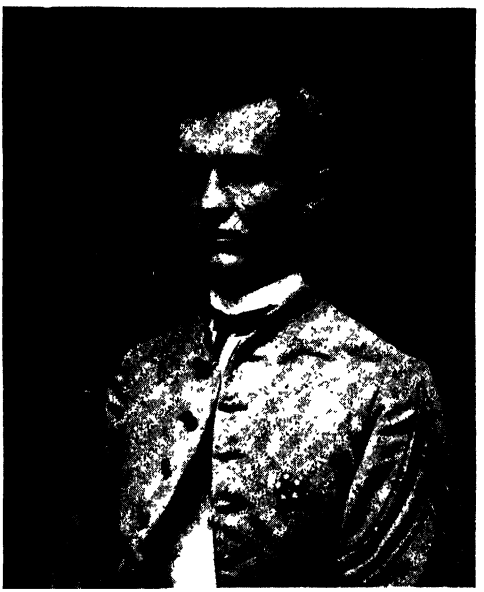
FOUNDER JAMES F. HOPKINS
As Captain of Co. B, V. M. I. Cadets.

Meanwhile "Colonel" Hopkins, as he was called, had confided his intention to others. Had he been less earnest, he might not have been so deliberate. He chose from among his friends not the most intimate, but those peculiarly endowed to contribute befitting dignity, and to typify a high order of good fellowship. He first consulted Greenfield Quarles, a classmate from his home State of Arkansas. "Bruin" Quarles had the resolute character his nickname implies, but it was enveloped in a nature so gentle and so kindly that the appellation seems more grotesque than appropriate. He was born in Christian County, Kentucky, April 1, 1847. His father, John M. Quarles, was a native Virginian. His mother was Penelope Brunson, born in North Carolina. The Quarles family moved from Kentucky in 1851, and settled near Helena, Arkansas, where the father became a large planter. Greenfield Quarles entered the Confederate service when but sixteen years of age, acting as aide on the staff of his uncle, General William A. Quarles. He served with distinction until he was captured in the battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864, after which he was taken to Camp Douglass, near Chicago. He remained there until May, 1865, when he was exchanged and returned to the South. At the close of the war, young Quarles entered a preparatory school at Toronto, Canada, studying there for a year. He matriculated at Virginia Military Institute in August, 1866.

Hopkins perceived in Quarles the grace and dignity of refined character, the prestige of a spotless name. Quarles was as pure in thought and in conduct as he was noble in every impulse. He had been the true friend, the admired companion, the dependable confidant; and now he became a constructive force—

the careful, prudent, resourceful adviser in the new society which was to immortalize their friendship. Together they exemplified all the attributes that the highest ideals embrace. But they needed the benefit of a more active spirit, a good fellow who had not compromised reputation in the attainment of popularity. They agreed upon James M. Riley of St. Louis—"Mac" Riley, the comely, curly-haired cadet whom everybody loved.

James McIlvaine Riley was born in St. Louis, Missouri, May 16, 1849. Like Quarles, his parents united the blood of the Blue Grass State and of the Old Dominion. James M. Riley, Sr., was born at Frankfort, Kentucky. His wife, Ann Sanford Tapscott, was a native of Winchester, Virginia. The senior Riley moved to St. Louis in early manhood, and there as a wholesale merchant acquired a comfortable competence. The son, James M., Jr., attended St. Louis University School, then entered Virginia Military Institute in the fall of 1866. From the day he arrived in Lexington, "Mac" Riley was a favorite among cadets of all classes. A strikingly handsome youth, with courtly manners and affable disposition, his attractiveness was compelling, his personal charm irresistible. Possessed of more means than the average cadet, he was free-hearted to a fault. He had natural talent for friendships, and was a good-fellow of the higher order. He had a habit of doing just the right thing at the right time. Although not characterized as a leader, he was conspicuous in always rising to an emergency. When the crowd chased a thieving culprit, it was fleet-footed "Mac" Riley who caught the rascal. When a bacchanalian was deserted by fellow convivials, Riley was the Good Samaritan who piloted the derelict to barracks. When an epidemic of pneumonia filled the hospitals, Riley's good cheer was tonic to the afflicted. He always had a good story, and he had the happy faculty of being able to tell it well. He had real ability as a public speaker, but the clever wit in his facetious nature more often turned the talent to the farcical than to serious roles. In all, he measured up to Hopkins and Quarles in honorable conduct, and added the spice of life to their less lightsome ways. The three had been warm friends since the beginning of fourthclass days, Hopkins and Quarles having come from the same State, and Riley from the nearby metropolis of the Southwest.



FOUNDER GREENFIELD QUARLES
As First Lieutenant of Co. A, V. M. I. Cadets.

What a triumvirate was that to exemplify the ideals which Hopkins had written into a ritual! Honor was its cardinal motif– and was not Hopkins the very soul of honor? Virtue was its essential teaching– –and was not Quarles a living symbol of purity? Friendship was its token—and was not Riley the vivifying spirit of good-fellowship? With what earnestness they must have planned the secret tryst! With what emotions they must have sought the spot where their friendships were to be consecrated! Into the impressive stillness of mountain-bound solitude they went one night—into that strange darkness of the valley where there is no horizon; where stars hang low with supernal nearness; where solemn words seem more sacred, and an oath spoken in the name of God quickens the sense of His presence. There by a great limestone rock they clasped hands on the Bible, and looking up to the stars with solemn reverence they joined in the vows that bound them together as Brothers in the Legion of Honor.



FOUNDER JAMES M. RILEY
First Eminent Commander of Alpha Chapter.

This was the beginning of Sigma Nu Fraternity. It was in October, 1868. During the next two months others were brought into the mysteries. But the existence of the new society was kept secret until its first formal meeting on January 1, 1869, which is the accepted date of the founding of the Fraternity. Tradition long confused the facts and circumstances of this most important matter of history. For fifteen years after their graduation contact with the Founders was lost. They returned to the West and pursued varying fortunes in places then remote, Hopkins and Riley following their professions as civil engineers, the former entering the service of a pioneering railroad, the latter engaging in an extensive survey of the Mississippi River. Quarles returned to assist in the management of his father's plantations. Years afterward, when the Fraternity had risen to the dignity of desiring its history revealed, tradition had entwined its mythical threads around the facts, and erroneous reasoning resulted. The date of founding then was supposed to have been in 1866, and the name of John W. Hopson was included as one of the Founders.

"Jack" Hopson was one of the organizers of the Honduras Emigrant Association in 1866. Hopkins joined that organization that year. He and Hopson had been schoolmates at Memphis, and their friendship became more firmly

fixed when they met again at Lexington. This intimacy was so recognized that local memories linked them together in the founding of Sigma Nu. Hopkins later contradicted the supposition, and declared that there was no connection between the Honduras Emigrant Association and the Legion of Honor, except, as a matter of course, that some of the friendships formed in the earlier association were perpetuated in the new Order. "Jack" Hopson was admittedly one of the two most popular cadets in the entire Corps. He was idolized by all.



THE ROCK OF SIGMA NU
Large limestone rock on the grounds of V. M. I., where the Founders met to inaugurate Sigma Nu Fraternity.

An adorable mischief, he never did a malicious act, but never overlooked a chance to participate in a harmless prank. He was as full of good-natured intrigue as he was running over with good spirit. Hopkins loved him, as did everybody; but he realized that Hopson lacked the seriousness and the equanimity that he believed were essential in the nucleus of the new organization. Consequently, the name of John W. Hopson appears nineteenth on the roll. But in the hearts of his fraternity associates he certainly was among the first. History must be cruelly accurate in such important matters. Nevertheless, these facts never can disassociate "Jack" Hopson from the peculiar reverence that tradition once attached to his name.

Although the Fraternity was not organized until January 1, 1869, it had its spiritual beginning in 1866, when the soul of Frank Hopkins rebelled against injustice. Its fundamental and philosophical conception was the same spirit which had animated the defenders of liberty in the same State almost half a century earlier. In cycles of history, these struggles have been recorded since

the beginning of civilization. They often mark epochs of progress, and usually result from need of readjustment. Periodically, power must be opposed to curb its abuse, in lower levels of society as well as in high places of authority. So it was at Virginia Military Institute. Young men from that State had acquired power by virtue of the rule originally prohibiting nonresident matriculation. When the order was changed, a new element had to be recognized and respected. The first impulse of power when it is assailed is to assert itself more forcefully,



"JACK" HOPSON AND TWO OF THE FOUNDERS
1, Founder James F. Hopkins; 2, John W. "Jack" Hopson; 6, Founder Greenfield Quarles.

rather than to yield to reason. Thus the practice of hazing was utilized to punish, with the result that the issue was still more severely drawn.

Interesting and important in this connection is the situation involving distinct traits of people of virtually the same blood, but reared in different environment. In this conflict between an old regime and a new order, the power was in possession of those who by birth had acquired the habit of presuming preferment. The opposition came from those who had been bred to believe in the broader spirit of democracy. Hence, the contest was not for power, but for recognition of principles for which ancestors of both elements had fought side by side. The perspective of one had been limited, in a sense, to life which clung to old codes and customs. The vision of the other had been broadened by experiences and by observations which created a new conception of social ranking. The one inclined to cavalierism. The other typified Americanism. This fact is most important in Sigma Nu history. It reveals the underlying principle upon which the Fraternity's success has been achieved. It marks a characteristic that is traceable throughout the entire history of Sigma Nu.

So far as this concerns the organization which dominated the Corps in 1866,

when the Founders of Sigma Nu entered Virginia Military Institute, it must be remembered, as previously stated, that the unpopular practices indulged in by this secret society were modified when its membership grew in cosmopolitan complexion. The predilection to a narrow tendency was not innate in the principles of this society, as it was inherent in the individuals who composed its original membership. It was a circumstance incident to its beginning, and not a policy peculiar to this fraternity as it extended its membership and expanded its sphere of activity. But the force and effect of the circumstance are too vital here to be ignored, and too obvious to be doubted. In the year 1865-66, only one of the fourteen members of this organization was a nonresident of the State, and he failed to return in the fall of 1866, leaving the membership exclusively Virginian. During that summer one of the founders of this fraternity had married a daughter of the commandant of Virginia Military Institute. Since this secret society controlled all the high offices which were tendered upon recommendation of the commandant, it may be realized why, under the smart of severe hazing experiences, there grew a suspicion that favoritism was practiced. However that may have been in the beginning, in the course of readjustment, after thorough diffusion of nonresidents throughout all the classes, these grievances were minimized or dispelled.

For many years there existed the supposition that Sigma Nu had been organized to break up the "Blackfeet." The name persisted locally, and in contradistinction the members of Sigma Nu were called "Whitefeet". The "Blackfeet" Fraternity was the Mother Society of Alpha Tau Omega. In contradiction of the fallacy that Sigma Nu was founded with vengeance as its purpose, members of both fraternities repeatedly denied that any such thought could have animated the Founders of Sigma Nu. There was intense rivalry between the two organizations, but no more so than that which characterized interfraternity relationships in general at that time. On the other hand, there were some very intimate friendships between members of the two fraternities. Hopkins had not a vengeful spirit. He had not in the beginning opposed the "Blackfeet", but the excesses which their unchallenged power had admitted. He fought the same abuses when they were manifested independent of "Blackfeet" influence, and he was as ready to fight with one of their members against oppression as he was to defend any other mistreated underclassman. Hopkins once befriended an Alpha Tau "Mouse", a diminutive "Rat", who had been imposed upon. The protege became so attached to him and was so often in his company that he became known as "Hopkins's Mouse".

Sigma Nu Fraternity was not founded out of any feeling of malice or animosity, nor was it conceived with any contentious designs. Had this been the desire and purpose of Founder Hopkins, he would not have delayed action until his third year. His battles had been won. His principles had prevailed. Peace, not strife, was then the longing of all men. Hopkins had passed the meridian of his college days. The dawn was far in the past. All the chaos and doubt which had followed was fading away in the light of new hope. The shadows which the sunrise of his plebe days had thrown across his path were now falling behind him as he faced the eventide of cadet life. His thoughts were not of

bygones, but of the future. What of the friendships which he had made? What of the victories he had won? What of the principles for which he had fought? Was all this but evanescent? The revelation came to Frank Hopkins when he joined the Masonic Lodge, an institution that had lived through the ages, a Brotherhood which taught the lessons of fraternity and prompted the impulses of sympathy and affection that underlie the only peace and contentment that is abiding.

Hence it was that out of that maelstrom of human emotions came another great Brotherhood. It is appropriate that its genesis should have been anteceded by such lurid situations, that the moral of its beginning might emphasize the absolute transcendence of principles of honor and justice. It is fitting that its birth should have been in the South where men's passions had been fanned to fury, that its motive might impress the inevitable need of brotherly love in the affairs of men. There is destiny foreshadowed in the early history of this Fraternity. There is prophecy foretold in its traditions. The story of Sigma Nu runs true to the tenets of the Founders.

CHAPTER IV

The First Legionnaires

THE conversion of the Legion of Honor into Sigma Nu Fraternity was an adaptation rather than a transition. Whether Founder Hopkins intended originally that the Order should follow the course and customs of college Greek-letter fraternities is a matter of doubt. The conduct of such organizations at that time was very generally in conflict with the principles which controlled him, and the repute they were bringing upon themselves was not enviable. They were becoming more widespread, however, despite disfavor and antagonism, and inasmuch as fundamentally they were founded with motives of friendship, in this respect there was common cause. Regardless of what may have been the purpose in the beginning, the Legion of Honor in its first year assumed the outward aspects of a college Greek-letter society, maintaining secretly its original name, but becoming publicly recognized as Sigma Nu Fraternity.

Secrecy, always an element of charm to youth, remained a salient feature of the new organization, expediency as well as choice governing the circumstances. Opposition had to be reckoned with, although not to the extent that would have been necessary had the movement crystallized during the first two years of Founder Hopkins's cadet career. The power of the "Blackfeet" had been broken, and there was no fear in the beginning for the life of the new society. But there was concern over its secrets, and mystery constantly was cast about its activities. One of the traditions handed down through the years tells of an incident when "Blackfeet" were caught trying to steal the records of the "Whitefeet" from the room of one of the members, an act typifying the lack of *entente cordiale* among fraternities at that time.

Stated meetings the first half-year of 1869 were practically impossible, the hours of Saturday afternoon being the only time that those below the first class were allowed freedom. Hopkins, Quarles and Riley were secondclassmen when they organized the Legion of Honor, and with two exceptions the men initiated during the college year 1868-69 were also in the junior class or below that rank in the Corps. Meetings were sometimes held under cover of darkness, when lights were out in barracks, and the lark of eluding the guard added ecstacy to emotions already quickened by the secret nature of the occasion. The objective of these truant trysts was usually the large limestone rock, where the Founders had consecrated their vows. Most of the early initiations were conducted there with the same solemnity and ceremony that had attended the birth of the Fraternity. Minutes of these early meetings were not recorded,

for obvious reasons, and the details of any business transacted were lost to memory long before effort was made to retrieve such historical information. During the period from the first of January, 1869, to the day of finals on the next Fourth of July, it is doubtful whether any action was attempted beyond the election and initiation of new members. For several months even the identity of the membership was kept secret.

Opportunity for fellowship was exceedingly limited by the demands of classroom and military training. From the moment when the Corps rushed into ranks at reveille until retreat was sounded near the close of the day, the routine of military and scholastic occupation was continuous. The hour of fellowship to which those early Brothers eagerly looked forward each day was at twilight, when a period of recreation was granted before the evening study began. Supper over, the men sauntered out upon the parade ground, lingered under the guard tree or gathered near the gates, where Lexington belles came at that hour to get a glimpse of cadet sweethearts. Then it was that fraternity matters were talked over, and fraternizing was indulged in under the spell of after-sunset enchantment. Then it was that the charm of natural environment was most impressive,—in the gloaming when the dusk of fading day disclosed the first stars of eventide.

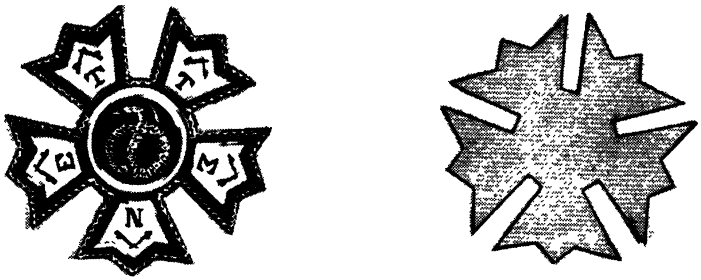


GATES OF V. M. I.
Historic entrance to the grounds of the "West Point of the South".

Such was the setting when the badge of Sigma Nu first appeared on the uniforms of the members. For a time the emblem had not been worn openly. Great secrecy attended the planning of this auspicious occasion when the identity of the membership was thus to be revealed. A badge had been one of the earnest desires of Founder Hopkins when he conceived the organization, and to him alone is credited the idea and the development of the design. Following adoption of the name of the foreign society, Hopkins fashioned the badge from the Cross of the Legion of Honor of France. He made the original pattern and designated the symbols to be engraven thereupon, the significance of which he wrote into the secret work of the Ritual.

The first Sigma Nu badges were made by a jewelry concern in Baltimore, Maryland. They were flat and smooth, about one and one-quarter inches in diameter. The method then employed in making the badges was to place a pattern upon a sheet of gold, cut out the design and enamel it, then engrave the symbols. The original sterling silver plate used in making the first badge of Sigma Nu came into the possession of the Fraternity forty-five years after it was made. The conspicuous fields of white enamel surrounding the symbols on the arms of the badge caused it to become known as the "White Badge". In

singular contrast, the badge of the "Blackfeet" fraternity was so enameled that it was known as the "Black Badge". The Founders' Constitution decreed that the design and the symbols never should be changed without unanimous assent of the entire Order. Except for variations in size and in the development of the raised center, no change has been made. The first badges were worn in the spring of 1869.



THE FIRST SIGMA NU BADGE
Original Badge of Founder Hopkins, exact size, and pattern by which the first badges were cut from sheet gold.

At that time, sky-blue ribbons were worn with the badge as a signal that a secret meeting was to be held. This created local supposition that sky-blue was originally the official color of Sigma Nu. Black, white and gold were the colors adopted in the beginning. White and gold were the colors of V. M. I., and with these black was included as significant of secrecy.

Selection of members during the first year of the Fraternity's existence did not involve contest or rivalry. It was a season of realization rather than a time of conquest; a crystallization of associations from the abstract into concrete form. Naturally, the source of original membership of the Legion of Honor was from among those who had been associated with Founder Hopkins, or who in some way had exemplified the ideals for which he stood. Cadets nonresident in the State were in significant majority, but a well-balanced representation of Virginia sons was included. Founder Hopkins had made many close friends among state-resident cadets, and with the townspeople of Lexington there was manifest admiration and regard for him. His affiliation with Masonry linked him intimately with the best class of local citizenry, and in this contact he was joined by other early members of Sigma Nu.

There was a warm feeling locally for the new Fraternity. In its personnel, reflecting the cosmopolitan statehood of the Corps, it incorporated sons of the best blood of old Virginia families represented there. The test of favor was not titled ancestry, but individual merit and effort. Each member was supposed to have earned or to be endeavoring to achieve some military or scholastic distinction. If a candidate did not conform to this requirement, all the glories of

his family's past did not prevail. One of the early members from Richmond proposed the name of a chum, a born aristocrat, on the walls of whose home hung family portraits of ruffled Knights and Ladies of generations past. This fellow was rejected because he showed no disposition to earn distinction by personal effort.

Fifty-one members constituted the Fraternity at the time of the first commencement after its founding. Twelve states were represented in this inaugural group. The date of admission of each member is unknown, the roster preserved being recognized as only the approximate order of their initiations. The names of Edward Robert Arthur, Linton Neville Buck and John Carmichael appear after the twelfth name on this list, although they are known to have taken more prominent part in the work of organization than did those initiates whose names precede them. Edward R. Arthur is conceded to have been the author of the original draft of the Constitution. Linton N. Buck suggested changes and wrote them into the revision that became the basic law of the Fraternity. Linton Buck was not in sympathy with certain stipulations which hinted of the aims of the abandoned Honduras Emigrant Association. Arthur had belonged to that defunct organization. Buck had not been a member, and he discouraged perpetuation of its influence in Sigma Nu Fraternity. Arthur's purpose probably had been more sentimental than otherwise, and this imprint of the earlier association was effaced from the Constitution.





EDWARD R. ARTHUR, ALPHA
Author of the original Constitution of Sigma Nu Fraternity.

Edward R. Arthur came from a distinguished family of Columbia, South Carolina. After graduation at Virginia Military Institute in 1870, he entered the law department of the University of South Carolina, receiving his degree in law, which became his profession. He entered Masonry almost coincident with his joining in the early organization work of Sigma Nu, and rose to high official rank in both orders. Linton N. Buck was from Kentucky. He was graduated in 1870 with rank of second lieutenant, and was regarded as one of the very finest characters in the Corps. He became recognized as one of the distinguished graduates of Virginia Military Institute. He remained there as assistant professor for two years, obtaining the degree of B. S., and rendering to the Mother Chapter the benefit of his splendid talents. He then went West, studied law, and settled permanently in Kansas City, Missouri, where he became a leading attorney and a much-honored citizen.

John Carmichael was born at Augusta, Georgia. He received his preparatory education at Somerville Academy, then entered Virginia Military Institute in 1864. He was a member of the valiant corps of cadets participating in the Battle of Newmarket. Later he commanded a Company of Georgia troops, and became adjutant of his Battalion. He returned to Virginia Military Institute in 1866, was graduated as captain in 1870, and remained as assistant professor for one year. After service in a government position in Washington, then as civil engineer of Gainesville, Florida, he returned to Lexington, Virginia, which became his permanent home. In 1870, he married Miss Jennie Tucker, daughter of Hon. John Randolph Tucker, at that time head of the law department of Washington College.



LINTON N. BUCK, ALPHA
Foremost leader of Alpha after the Founders were graduated.



JOHN CARMICHAEL
Conspicuous among the leaders during Alpha's inaugural year.

John Carmichael had the highest instincts of honor, and so lived that his presence in Lexington was a testimonial to his Fraternity founded there. He never lost interest in Sigma Nu. His devotion and loyalty were steadfast, and his honored name was first to be linked to the Fraternity by the initiation of a son of a Sigma Nu, this distinction extending into the third generation.

These three members—Edward Arthur, Linton Buck and John Carmichael—are here considered next to the Founders because they were undoubtedly the ones most active with them in the organization of Sigma Nu Fraternity. Others appear before them on the accepted list, but questioned accuracy admits of arbitrary arrangement in this reckoning. Tradition is rarely exact in details, and inconsistencies are frequently evident in information thus handed down. Obviously this is true in the case of Robert E. Semple, originally placed fourth on the roll, and with "Jack" Hopson erroneously listed among the Founders before



AMONG THE FIRST ON ALPHA'S ROLL
1, Norwood B. Randolph; 2, Lewis S. Jervey; 3, C. S. Boykin; 4, Elliott H. Burwell; 5, Lafayette P. Rodes; 6, Joseph S. Legare.

the facts were revealed by Founder Hopkins. Semple was a member of the incipient organization which was considered only a local society, and the oath of which did not prohibit members from joining a national fraternity. Semple exercised this previously unquestioned right, the connection necessitating action when the Legion of Honor became a Greek-letter fraternity. The record of this action appeared in the minutes of Alpha Chapter as follows:

"Mr. R. E. Semple, of Mississippi, having joined another secret society, it was decided at the meeting before the last recorded, that although he had not acted contrary to the old Constitution, that the choice should be given him of leaving it, and remaining with the Legion of Honor, or of leaving the latter entirely."

Semple's later obligation did not honorably admit of such choice, so he had to accept the liberal terms of the Legion. He was relieved from all obligations

except secrecy. Semple was not considered a traitor, and had not been guilty of dishonorable conduct. His expulsion became merely a matter of expediency when the Legion of Honor assumed the aspects of a Greek-letter fraternity.

The fifth name on the roster is that of Norwood B. Randolph, of Leesburg, Virginia. He was graduated in 1870, and died soon afterward. Lewis Simons Jervey, next on the list, was from Charleston, South Carolina. He was graduated in 1869, then returned to his home State, where he earned high rank in military affairs. C. S. Boykin, "Chick" he was called, was one of the organizers of the Honduras Emigrant Association. He made a prospecting trip to Central America, and returned to disillusion his confederates about the supposed advantages there. He did not complete his course at Virginia Military Institute, having become engaged in brokerage business in Texas. Elliott H. Burwell was graduated in 1870, and acted as assistant professor for one year. He then returned to his home in Maryland, where he became a prominent civil engineer.

John S. Myrick was graduated fifth in the class of 1871, with rank of captain. He became a professor at Texas Military Institute, was later city treasurer of Austin, Texas, and became an influential banker with connections in Austin and at Sherman, Texas. Lafayette Penn Rodes was the sweet singer of the Corps, his guitar and his songs having been long remembered by cadets of his time. He was graduated in 1870, and for many years was city civil engineer of Lynchburg, Virginia. George Ogle Tayloe was from one of the oldest families of Virginia. He was graduated in 1870, and spent his life maintaining his ancestral estate on the Rappahannock River. Henry Tayloe Ward was the son of an Episcopal minister of Richmond County. Ill health necessitated his withdrawal from the Corps after he had reached the first class. He regained his health at the county seat of his parents, and continued the pursuit of agriculture there the rest of his life. Of W. W. Davidson, sixteenth on the roll, nothing has been learned. J. H. Franklin, from Maryland, was graduated in 1871, and became a civil engineer in his home State. J. Edwin Gott, his intimate friend, also from Maryland, was a cadet for two years, then formed business connections that prevented his return. He later entered politics, was elected to the legislature, then served as Secretary of State of Maryland.

The beloved John W. Hopson and his brother, Ford Hopson, are midway in the list of first members of Sigma Nu. They both were graduated in 1870, and returned to their home at Memphis, Tennessee. Their father was a leading physician there. During the yellow fever plague of 1878, he and the two sons joined the Howard Relief Association, and bravely gave themselves to the work of ministering to the afflicted. "Jack" Hopson was a giant in strength, and withstood the ordeal. But his father and Ford both were stricken, and with all the other members of the family died of yellow fever. "Jack's" spirit was broken by this calamity. Without his usual good cheer his strength literally withered, and grief hastened his untimely death. It is fitting here to record a tribute of a classmate, a member of Alpha Tau Omega, who wrote of "Jack" Hopson:

"He was the bravest, the gentlest and the sweetest man I ever knew, and I



ACTIVE DURING ALPHA'S INAUGURAL YEAR

Myrick; 6, Willi ; 2, J. Hunter Smith; 3, John D. Battle; 4, Henry Bridges; 5, John S. S. Mabry; 7, John F. White; 8, Muscoe L. Spotswood; 9, Hollis B. Spiller.

loved him as a brother. No one during his cadet days ever saw him lose his temper, or do a mean act. He was always ready to aid the weak and the friendless. Every plebe loved him, and his classmates idolized him almost."

Joseph Seabrook Legare, of South Carolina, was graduated in 1871 as first lieutenant. He became a lawyer at Charleston, South Carolina. He died during young manhood. J. Hunter Smith, of Mobile, Alabama, was graduated in 1872. He had unusual talent as an amateur actor, and was famed for theatricals he staged at Lexington. He returned to his home plantation after graduation, and died there in 1878. A. Mason Cooke, of Norfolk, Virginia, was a bright and popular member of the graduating class of 1870. That year he had an accident at the Institute which almost proved fatal. While scuffling with a classmate in his room on the second stoop, he lost his balance and fell out the window. He was in the hospital several months, but made his grades, was graduated, and became a very successful business man. Thompson Huffman, who follows in the list, was from Alexandria, Virginia. No other information concerning him has been obtained. Records of Felix Romer, of Alabama, of Thomas Rutherford, of Charleston, West Virginia, and of Tyree J. Dabney, of Georgia, also are lacking.

John Finley White, of Selma, Alabama, was graduated with the rank of first lieutenant in the class of 1871. He was city attorney of Selma, adjutant general of Alabama for three years, a member of the legislature, then brigadier general of Alabama militia. James Moore Adams lived near Lexington, and during the Civil War served with local troops. He was a cadet but two years, a popular fellow who kept up fraternity associations after leaving the Corps, remaining resident of Rockbridge County all his life. Henry Bridges, of Tarboro, North Carolina, was graduated third in the class of 1871. He served as private secretary to the superintendent of Virginia Military Institute, then was elected assistant professor of mathematics, but died of pneumonia before taking the chair. Henry Tupper Drane, of Clarksville, Tennessee, was a cadet two years before entering the University of Virginia. He studied medicine there, preparing himself for a prominent career as a physician in Tennessee. His name later is connected with the first attempt at extension of the Fraternity.

William Spark Mabry, of Selma, Alabama, was graduated first captain in the class of 1871, the highest military honor in the Corps. He became a wealthy landowner in Texas. Muscoe Livingston Spotswood, of Richmond, Virginia, was editor of the *Cadet Monthly*, orator for second class, winner of declaimer's medal in 1871, and of the orator's medal in 1872. He was graduated in 1872 with rank of quartermaster. He became an attorney, served in the legislature, and as commonwealth attorney for the city of Richmond. Hollis Bartley Spiller and James Robinson, both from Virginia, withdrew before graduation to enter commercial pursuits, Spiller locating in Texas, Robinson remaining a resident of Virginia. Peyton Gwynn Halyburton, of Richmond, son of a distinguished judge of antebellum days, was graduated with second honors in the class of 1871. He became superintendent of schools at Dallas, Texas. John Preston Arthur, of Columbia, South Carolina, brother of Edward R. Arthur, was graduated with rank of lieutenant and was valedictorian of the class of 1871.



AMONG FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS OF SIGMA NU

1, Peyton G. Halyburton; 2, James Bonham; 3, John P. Arthur; 4, William N. Kidd; 5, Joseph B. Marvin; 6, George K. Camp; 7, William J. McGrath; 8, Louis B. Hanks; 9, R. William Rutherford.

Joseph Benson Marvin, of Monticello, Florida, was graduated in 1870, and for three years was assistant professor of chemistry at Virginia Military Institute, obtaining his B. S. degree in 1871. He became president of the University of Louisville Medical College, and was considered pre-eminent in his profession in that State. W. M. Sledge was a cadet but one year before entering Washington College. Further information concerning him is unknown. R. William Rutherford remained two years, then went into business at Richmond, where he died in 1876. Thomas Forbes was a cadet two years, 1867-69, and won fame as pitcher on the baseball team. He entered the University of Virginia in the fall of 1869. After short residence in his old home at Mobile, Alabama, he moved to Sherman, Texas, where he acquired considerable wealth in realty operations and in commercial development. Milton Franklin Hood also entered the University of Virginia after one year as a cadet. He became a lawyer at Columbus, Georgia. Concerning W. H. Faison, of North Carolina, no record is available.

William N. Kidd was forced by illness to leave the Corps in his second year when he was first corporal of Company A, the highest rank in the third class. He regained his health in Texas, residing at Houston, where he attained high Masonic rank. The name of John D. Battle, of South Carolina, never has been carried on the rolls of the Fraternity, although Battle convinced officials in later years that he had been a member of Sigma Nu the year of its founding. Founder Hopkins corroborated this claim, and declared that Battle was one of his most intimate companions. An inscription on the back of a photograph of Battle, preserved by Founder Hopkins, bears testimony of their intimacy. Therefore, the name of John D. Battle is included in this list of first-year initiates, on the roll having been given place as number 41-A, sharing the enrollment number of William N. Kidd, designated 41-B under this arrangement.

George King Camp was graduated in the class of 1871. He was considered the best athlete in the Corps, was catcher on the baseball team and a very popular cadet. "Professor" was his nickname. He was a poet of extraordinary talent. He became a journalist in San Francisco where, in 1885, a book of his verses was published under the title "Shadows". William Joy McGrath, of Charleston, South Carolina, was graduated in 1872 with rank of lieutenant, and was president of the Dialectic Literary Society in his senior year. Louis Bertrand Hanks was graduated in 1873 as a lieutenant. He also lived at Charleston, South Carolina, where he became a prosperous civil engineer. It was Louis Hanks who frustrated the attempt of the "Blackfeet" to steal the secret records of Sigma Nu from his room. James Bonham was graduated first captain in 1873, the highest honor and most coveted distinction in the Corps. It signified all-round fitness for class leadership, and Bonham merited the selection without question. He became professor of physics and assistant professor of mathematics at the University of Georgia, and later held the same position at South Carolina Military Academy. He died in 1884 at the home of his brother, Governor Bonham of South Carolina.

These are the men who constituted the founding Chapter of Sigma Nu Fraternity. Most of them were initiated before the 1869 commencement. It is



MAIN STREET, LEXINGTON, VA.
Business section of principal street as it appeared in early years.

impossible to designate with accuracy the few who were not made members until the next college year. Since the organization was not in actual working order until the fall of 1869, all these men are listed as members of the first Chapter of Sigma Nu. Recapitulation of their achievements reveals a record that should be regarded as the cornerstone in the foundation upon which the success of the Fraternity has been built. Thirty-two of these men were graduated, thus demonstrating that they perceived and pursued the primary object of going to college. Halyburton was graduated with second honor, Bridges with third honor and Myrick with fifth honor. Recognition of scholastic ability was given to Burwell, Buck, Carmichael, Bridges and Marvin, who were chosen assistant professors. In military honors, Hopkins, Myrick, Carmichael, Mabry and Bonham were elected captains; Quarles, Buck, Legare, White, McGrath, Hanks and J. P. Arthur, lieutenants; and Spotswood, quartermaster. *Nulli secundus* was the campus motto of the first Chapter of Sigma Nu. With that determination the Fraternity was founded. At the end of the first year that ambition had been realized.

CHAPTER V

Alpha

THE return of the Founders for the senior year at Virginia Military Institute, in the fall of 1869, marked the beginning of normal fraternity activities of the Mother Chapter of Sigma Nu. Fourteen members were firstclassmen, with privileges admitting greater freedom than previously had been allowed, and regular meetings thus were made possible. Secrecy still governed all movements, places of meeting being carefully guarded from public knowledge. Change of meeting place was made frequently to confuse those who were curious and strategy was employed to outwit any whose suspicions seemed to be aroused. A lodge room in the Tutwiler Building on Main Street was a favorite rendezvous. A room in the Lexington Hotel on the same block sometimes was used. Founder Hopkins and John Carmichael were captains. Founder Quarles and Linton Buck were lieutenants. The four had officers' quarters in the towers, and in their rooms meetings occasionally were called.



TUTWILER BUILDING
of the early meeting places of Alpha Chapter.

Minutes recorded prior to February, 1870, were lost. Of proceedings recalled from memory and bearing that date, only printed excerpts were preserved from fire which destroyed all Alpha Chapter records of the first decade. These fragments reveal the fact that the Knights then were required to wear black gowns and masks at meetings, and to decide upon some title by which each was to be known. Officers of the Chapter were designated by Greek letters conforming to the initial letter or letters of the titles, as follows: Chi, Commander; Lambda Chi, Lieutenant Commander; Gamma Sigma, Grand Scribe; Tau, Treasurer; Sigma, Scribe; Pi Iota, Princeps Justicia; Delta Kappa, Door Keeper.

Officers first were elected in the spring of 1869, but only those chosen Chi, Lambda Chi and Sigma are known. Founder Riley was first Commander, Founder Hopkins was first Lieutenant Commander, and J. P. Arthur was Scribe. Riley and Hopkins served again in these offices during the college year 1869-70, Muscoe Spotswood then succeeding Arthur as Scribe. It is presumed that John

Grand Lodge. L. H.

Chapter No 1 Lexington Va.

Art. 1st

This Chapter Shall be Governed by the following rules, & each member be required to Conform himself Strictly to them.

Art 2d

In public this order Shall be Known by the name of the two last letters upon the badge (Σ.N.) Sigma New.

Art 3

Each member Shall pay a monthly fee of 25cts for Support of Hall,

Art 4th

The Chapter Shall at the usual Hall on the 2d Saturday in every month, during the year, at 2 oclock P. M. without further notice,

Art 5th

Any member who Shall absent himself from any meeting, without Sufficient Cause Shall be required to pay a fine of 50cts

BY-LAWS OF OLD ALPHA
Portion of By-Laws of Chapter I, reproduced from the original.

Arthur was advanced to higher office, for he was a very diligent and enthusiastic worker; but of this fact and concerning other officers nothing is known.

The popularity of "Mac" Riley and the consistently modest manner of Founder Hopkins are noteworthy in the choice of first officers. From the earliest hint of the history of Sigma Nu down to the last recollection of survivors of that first year, all records, traditions and memories harmonize in the unquestioned fact that James F. Hopkins was the originator and the real leader in the beginning of the Fraternity. All agree with equal emphasis that this distinction failed to cause him to forego his modesty by acceptance of the highest honor of the Chapter. He had aspired to one of the four captaincies of the Corps for the glory of the Fraternity. But for Hopkins personally, there was no greater recompense than the satisfaction of serving his fellow men at the sacrifice of every other ambition. How natural it was, therefore, that the popular "Mac" Riley should be chosen to the highest office in the Chapter.



LEXINGTON HOTEL
Where Alpha Chapter meetings were sometimes held.

With all his good-fellowship and light-heartedness, Riley retained a bearing that was impressive, if not always serious. He was not the fellow to start things, but he was usually at the front before the finish. Sagacity and self-possession united to make him dependable, and resourcefulness and quick wit made him always ready. The real secret of his winningness was his good spirit. He induced respect rather than compelling obedience. As an upperclassman, he indulged in good natured disciplining of plebes, and made them like him for it. On an inspection of rooms one evening Riley found a group of fourthclassmen smoking pipes and whistling "Auld Lang Syne," a breach of rules and insolent sacrilege. All had caps on, adding further offense to room regulations. The triple requisite of



TOWER OF EAST WING, V. M. I. BARRACKS
As Captain of Co. B, Founder Hopkins occupied Room 18 in this tower.

concealing a pipe, removing a cap, and saluting an inspection officer, with only two hands to perform the three obligations, forced each one to appear in some way compromised. Riley appreciated the humor of the situation and capitalized it by administering discipline which added an element of sportsmanship to necessary penalty.

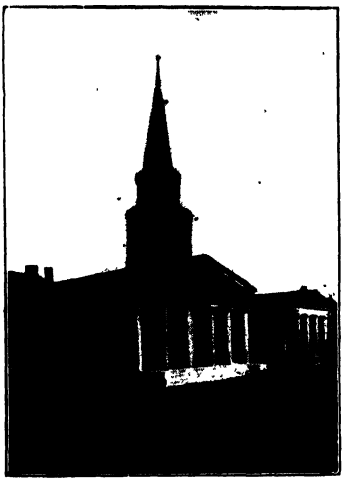
The election of Founder Riley to the office of first Regent further evidenced the favor he had among his chapter mates. The Constitution provided for the election of a Regent and a Vice Regent for a term of five years. This provision anticipated extension. Although there had been no other Chapter established at that time, an election was held before the Founders were graduated. The Regent was authorized by the Constitution to select some Chapter which was to be designated the Grand Lodge during his term of office, and which was to have special privileges in the granting of charters. Hence an election was necessary to vest Alpha with this function. The result was merely a progression of chapter officers, Eminent Commander Riley becoming the first Regent of the Fraternity, and Lieutenant Commander Hopkins the first Vice Regent. The Regent then was called Rho. Similar designation of Vice Regent was probably adopted, but there is no record of this.



FOUNDER JAMES M. RILEY
First Regent of Sigma Nu Fraternity, wh served two five-year terms in that offic

The finals of 1870 brought the three Founders to the end of their college careers. Eleven others of the first Chapter of Sigma Nu were graduated with them at that commencement. Since the coming of Hopkins, Quarles and Riley to Lexington, four epochal years had passed into history. The chaos they had encountered when entering Virginia Military Institute had greatly given way to order. The South was still suffering physical hardships, and spiritual misgivings were yet discouraging its people. But hope was prevalent, where once despair had ruled. Virginia Military Institute had been practically restored. As her cadets had won imperishable glory at Newmarket, so her sons were winning new laurels in the rebuilding of the South. The fraternity situation had been transformed from the domination of a single secret society to the inclusion of four organizations in the field. Kappa Alpha (S), which had been founded at Washington College, had extended its fellowship from its Mother Chapter across the campus confines. Beta Theta Pi also had established a Chapter at the Institute. Rivalry had become very keen, but bitterness was lacking and good

feeling prevailed generally when farewells were spoken at the finals of 1870. The graduates of that class were honored by the presence of General Robert E. Lee at their commencement exercises, the last function of the kind he attended at Lexington, his death occurring three months later. In other ways the finals of that year were memorable. The departure of many who had served in the war, and who had shared vicissitudes of the reconstruction period at V. M. I., took from the situation its most romantic element, and from the Corps a tradition-making class. From Alpha Chapter went the Founders and eleven other members, including such favorites and faithful workers as Edward Arthur, Linton Buck, John Carmichael and "Jack" Hopson. What a parting it must have been after four years of such peculiarly intimate fellowship together! What doubt must have filled the minds of all about the future of the Fraternity when the Founders said good-by at graduation! Founder Hopkins returned the next fall, when he was married to Miss Jennie Barclay at the historic old Presbyterian Church on Main Street. None of the Founders visited Alpha in the next twelve years, during which time the Chapter struggled to maintain the heritage they had created.



STONEWALL JACKSON MEMORIAL CHURCH
In this historic Presbyterian Church in Lexington, Founder Hopkins was married.



BARCLAY RESIDENCE
Home of Miss Jennie Barclay, who became the wife of Founder Hopkins.

The high personnel of the original Chapter is emphasized strikingly in the honors won by members of the incoming first class. William Sparks Mabry was made senior captain, the highest military rank of the Corps; John S. Myrick was one of the other three captains. Legare, White and J. P. Arthur were lieutenants. No less commanding was the position of the distinguished Linton Buck, who had joined the faculty. Thus Alpha Chapter had high prestige to begin its second year, and the bestowal of favor from Sigma Nu became an honor not lightly regarded. As a result, the pledging of members was virtually without contest. First in

the roster of initiates of the year 1870-71 is Hugh Grigsby Whitehead, who was a son of the mayor of Norfolk, and namesake of an uncle whose achievements are prominently mentioned in literary and historical reminiscences of the Old Dominion. Hugh Whitehead was graduated in 1872 with honors of first lieutenant, and with the promise of a brilliant career, which was cut short by death a few months later. H. McD. McCue was a popular member of the class entering in 1870. He was graduated in 1874, and retained interest in the Fraternity during his long and useful life, the greater part of which was



JOHN P. ARTHUR



MUSCOE L. SPOTSWOOD

SCRIBES OF CHAPTER I

John P. Arthur was elected to the office of Scribe during Alpha's inaugural year. Muscoe L. Spotswood served as Scribe during the college year 1869-70.

spent in the State of Pennsylvania. William W. Dancey was a senior when taken into Sigma Nu, having matriculated from the University of Virginia in 1870. His home was in Tarboro, North Carolina, where he practiced law after his graduation in 1871. Charles H. West, of South Carolina, and George P. Williams, of Virginia, initiated during Sigma Nu's second year of existence. did not remain at V. M. I. for the full course.

Beverly T. Crump, of Richmond, one of the initiates during the fall of 1870, finished the four-year course in three years, having been graduated with first scholarship honors in the class of 1873. His father had been a member of the Board of Supervisors of Virginia Military Institute before the war. Crump's affiliation with the Fraternity was a tribute to the high regard that had quickly grown up around Sigma Nu. After graduation, Beverly Crump continued his

studies for two years at the Universities of Berlin and Goettingen. He then returned to the University of Virginia, where he secured his degree in law. He became conspicuous in judicial circles in Richmond, Virginia. Carey Dempsey Grandy, of Oxford, North Carolina, also initiated in the fall of 1870, led his



INITIATED DURING SIGMA NU'S SECOND YEAR
1, William M. Walton; 2, William W. Dancey; 3, Beverly T. Crump; 4, M. McD. McCue; 5, Hugh G. Whitehead; 6, Carey D. Grandy.

plebe class in scholarship, and was graduated with first scholastic honors in 1874. He was made a captain in his senior year. He was taken into the faculty as an assistant professor, and was appointed a sub-professor captain. Later he was made full professor of natural philosophy and civil engineering at the University of North Carolina. Carey Grandy was the pride of the Chapter in his time.

By the achievements of Beverly Crump and Carey Grandy, who led their graduating classes in scholarship, it may be observed that Alpha's ambitions were broad and well balanced. In this second year of the Fraternity's existence, members of Sigma Nu won prominence by participation in other campus activities. The initiation of William Muse Walton, of Richmond, Virginia, had much to do with this extension of effort. Walton's talent inclined to the clas-

sical rather than to military attainment, although a mixture of both characteristics was inherited from his distinguished father, Chaplain of the famous Stonewall Brigade, who was accustomed to quit his post and lead Jackson's veterans in battle. Walton's middle name was from a grandmother, a member of the second generation of descendants of Adjutant General Muse, professional soldier, who was military tutor to George Washington at Mount Vernon. During his four years at Virginia Military Institute, Walton was at different times president of the Shakespeare Club, president of the Literary Society, and editor of the *Cadet Monthly*. He won the literary medal in his senior year.

J. Hunter Smith found in Walton complement to his own histrionic ability, and together they brought many laurels to Alpha. Preparatory to finals in his senior year, Hunter Smith organized an amateur troupe to stage "Julius Caesar". The faculty was dubious of their daring enterprise. Finals drew the elite from all sections, and it was no time for a fiasco. Rehearsal before a faculty committee was held in the mess hall, with Smith the Brutus and Walton, Mark Antony, with capes for togas and overturned tables for wings. The verdict of the committee was that it would make a great burlesque, and should only be advertised as such. Hunter Smith and Company were not diverted from their serious determination to produce the play *in extenso*. Scenery and costumes were ordered from a distance, and effort was redoubled in practice. Success was so marked that, following final applause, a distinguished member of the audience suggested that the performance be repeated the next night.

"Those of us who have died tonight will gladly die again for such an audience," was Hunter Smith's acknowledgment of a curtain call.

Thus began Alpha's fame on the amateur stage, the ascendancy of members of Sigma Nu as stars continuing throughout Walton's senior year, when he took the lead in "The Lady of Lyons".

Aspirations of Alpha during the year 1870-71 turned the attention of the Chapter for the first time to extension. Bearing date of December 3, 1870, a fragment from the minutes is preserved, making the important disclosure:

"A called meeting of the Order was held this evening for the purpose of considering the application of Mr. Drane, who wishes to establish a Chapter at the University. The pros and cons were duly discussed, but the thing was done handsomely, and the Charter will be immediately sent to our absent member in whose discretion we so much rely."

This action brought into use an article in the Constitution not previously applicable. In each state where Chapters were organized, there was provision for a President and Vice President for a term of three years. Three months before the Regent's term of office expired, he was authorized to call the several state Presidents together for the purpose of selecting a Regent and Vice Regent for the ensuing term of five years. Each President was to have a vote for every twenty-five members of the Fraternity in his jurisdiction. Presidents and Vice Presidents of states were to be elected in the same manner, the Commanders of

the several Chapters in each state to be called together for that purpose, each having one vote for every twelve members in the Chapter. Each President was to designate some Chapter to be known as the Grand Lodge of his state. In regard to new chapters, it was provided that they could be established in any part of the world by special charter from the Grand Lodge. Grand Lodges of the states were empowered to establish Chapters in their respective jurisdictions. Chapters were then designated by the Roman numerals, the Mother Chapter being known as Chapter I. instead of Alpha as in later nomenclature. Under date of January 27, 1871, the minutes recorded the first election under this provision.

"It was thought proper to elect a President and Vice President for the State at once. Mr. Buck was elected to the prior office and Mr. Spotswood to the latter. It will be necessary to submit these names to the Chapter that Mr. Drane has established at the University."

The Chapter at the University of Virginia, later known as Beta, was at first designated as Chapter II. This fragment is all that is revealed of the beginning of activity towards extension in the college year 1870-71. In passing, it is interesting to note in these scant records the repeated use of the title "Mr.", a custom of the Corps not ignored even in the intimacy of chapter proceedings. Nicknames were sometimes applied in informal references. Yet men were never referred to as Hopkins, Quarles or Riley; but always as Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Quarles or Mr. Riley.

The members of Chapter I had the distinction of joining in the escort of cadets at the funeral of Robert E. Lee in the fall of 1870. They marched directly behind Old Traveler, the famous war mount of General Lee. Cadets shared with college students their grief over the loss of the beloved president of Washington College, a sorrow that was nationwide. A son of General Lee, who had been a professor at Virginia Military Institute, was selected to succeed his father as president of the institution which incorporated a second illustrious name so closely identified with its history, and became Washington and Lee University. General Robert E. Lee was buried in the chapel of the University. His recumbent figure in marble above his tomb is a classic in stone.

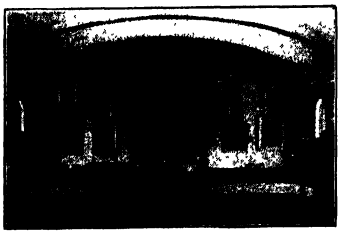
Graduation of the class of 1871 took from Chapter I Legare, White, Bridges, Mabry, Halyburton, Dancey, Camp and John Arthur, a distinguished group of honor men in scholarship and in military rank. Spotswood, McGrath and Whitehead became officers in the new first class for the college year of 1871-72. Additions to the membership were Charles Dudley Hubbard, J. W. Halsey, Mathew M. Harrison and Robert R. Bridges, of Virginia; James Lamb Johnston, of South Carolina; and John Winston Mabry and Oscar E. Smith, of Alabama.

The interest in extension, started the previous year, was resumed early in the new fall term. The advisability of entering Washington and Lee University was considered then, as shown in the minutes of a meeting September 23, 1871.

"After much discussion, the motion made by Mr. Spotswood that we should endeavor to establish at the Washington and Lee University was carried. As

the best means of doing this, it was resolved that a sufficient number of students should be taken as members of this Order, then subsequently a charter be granted to them."

No action resulted from this resolution, and it was several years before its intent was carried out. Only this brief extract reveals proceedings of the year 1871-72. It is known that William J. McGrath was Commander, and that Charles D. Hubbard was Scribe. McGrath was also president of the Dialectic Literary Society. Spotswood was president of the senior class. At the finals of 1872, Sigma Nu again won the highest military honor of first captain, James Bonham winning the favor of the Commandant along with the admiration of cadets, giving him the general verdict of being the best all-round man in his class. Mathew Harrison was also made a captain, and Louis Hanks, a lieutenant. The graduation of McGrath, Hunter Smith and Spotswood took from the Chapter the last of those members who had been associated with the Founders the first year. The retirement of Linton Buck from the faculty severed a strong link that had bound the later initiates in intimate contact with one of the foremost and one of the noblest of the early members, and Alpha Chapter thus was entirely bereft of parental guidance.



INTERIOR OF LEE CHAPEL
Showing recumbent marble figure of Robert E. Lee.

James Bonham was made Commander for the year 1872-73. His election insured the highest order of leadership, since Bonham stood first rank in the Corps, and was a man all the way through. J. Lamb Johnston was elected Scribe. As demonstrated in later years, he was a loyal and enthusiastic worker for Sigma Nu. Only five initiates were accepted that year, and all won high recognition. William Boggan Cash, of South Carolina, achieved the rank of first captain. Tazwell Ellett, of Richmond, became second captain in the same class, the first time since the founding of Sigma Nu that a fraternity had held the two highest captaincies in one year. "Taz" Ellett became a congressman from his state. Westmoreland D. Davis, who was also from Richmond, became governor of Virginia. William R. J. Caskie, of New Orleans, and Jacob Thomas Barron, of Columbia, South Carolina, completed the list of notable initiates that year. Caskie was a popular favorite among the cadets. Barron rose to the rank of lieutenant. He became one of the leading railroad attorneys of the South, and in the Fraternity a man of much influence.



THE WESTMINSTER ABBEY OF THE SOUTH
Robert E. Lee Memorial Chapel at Washington and Lee University.



JOINED ALPHA DURING COLLEGE YEAR 1871-72
1, J. Lamb Johnston; 2, Oscar E. Smith; 3, Charles D. Hubbard;
4, J. W. Halsey; 5, Mathew M. Harrison.

An attitude of self-sufficiency affected Alpha Chapter at this period of its career. Its effect was not apparent until later, but certainly the influence was in part responsible for a decline which carried the Chapter to low ebb in the next four years. A forecast of this fate is evidenced in the fact that only one initiate was accepted in the year 1873-74, William F. Parr, of Baltimore, winning this favor from the splendid group of cadets who composed the Chapter that year. William M. Walton was Commander and J. T. Barron was Scribe, a combination not wanting in enthusiasm and energetic devotion, both men continuing records of usefulness with abiding loyalty during their alumni careers. Contented with their local achievements, Alpha's members were not

then seriously concerned about expansion. At that period of general fraternity development, extension was the energizing force, and failure to expand was an indication of decadence. So it proved to be with Alpha Chapter.

Other causes contributed to a change in the Chapter's fortunes. A serious

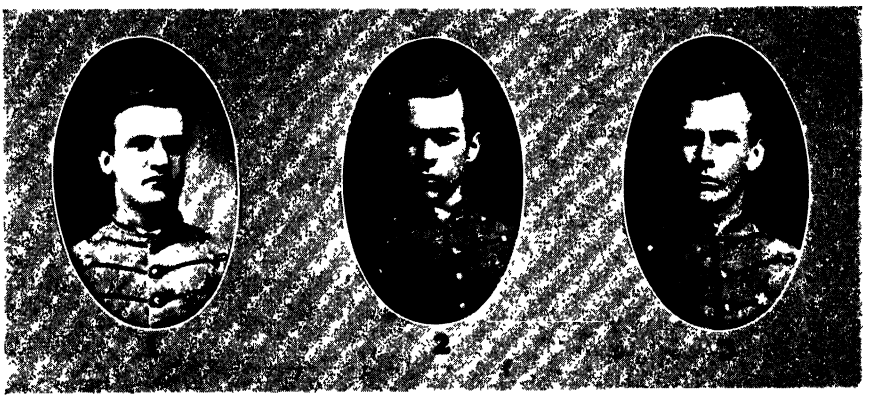


THE FIVE ALPHA INITIATES OF THE YEAR 1872-73
1, W. Boggan Cash; 2, Tazwell Ellett; 3, William R. J. Caskie; 4, Westmoreland D. Davis; 5, Jacob T. Barron.

disturbance shattered the order of the Institute that year, and its influence must have permeated every phase of cadet activity with some disorganizing results. The fourth class became insubordinate and unsubmissive to senior rule. Hazing had been moderated to the degree that its purpose was left unaccomplished, and the plebes threatened to undermine discipline by disregard of customs. Members of the other three classes agreed upon and carried out a plan to restore respect and subserviency. The event went down in history as the "bucking riot", bucking being one of the severe forms of "Ratting". A committee of twenty was selected from the three upper classes, and the hour after retreat the next Saturday evening was agreed upon as the time that the hazing spree was to take place. Heralded by the wails of their victims, the bucking committee went through every room searching out and assaulting the freshmen with such degree of punishment as their previous attitude or immediate conduct seemed to warrant. The circumstances were so exceptional and so exciting

that the committee lost the restraint of organized procedure with which it had started, and unpremeditated violence resulted. Faculty intervention was in vain, and military commands were merely pretense, since officers of the Corps were parties to the plot.

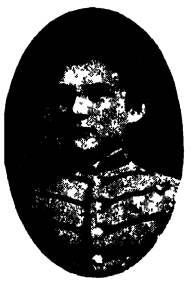
This affair created great consternation. It was the only occurrence of the kind in the history of the Institute. It accomplished its purpose in subduing the plebes, but ensuing difficulties between the upperclassmen and the faculty disturbed general morale. The members of the committee of twenty were



THE ONLY INITIATES OF ALPHA DURING TWO YEARS, 1873-74 AND 1874-75
1, William F. Parr; 2, Burke Shewmake; 3, J. Lawrence Keitt.

threatened with expulsion. Inasmuch as they were thoroughly representative of the three upper classes, and had acted upon a resolution regularly adopted, such penalty could not well be inflicted without disrupting the entire Corps. Consequently, action against the committee drifted to indefinite postponement. The net result was detrimental to the reputation for strict discipline that Virginia Military Institute previously had maintained. No relaxation of rules was admitted, but temporarily the standard was lowered. The insurrection also gave impetus to a growing feeling against fraternities. Following common practice in many colleges at that period, most mischief and malfeasance was blamed on the Greek-letter societies.

Alpha Chapter was affected by this situation, although the members were probably unmindful of the fact. Their place was being maintained; their personnel was conspicuous; and this seemed sufficient. But the internal welfare of the Chapter was suffering from the prestige of which it had boasted, and the next year retrogression became apparent. Only two initiates were taken in during the college year 1874-75. Both of them attained high rank. Burke Shewmake, of Augusta, Georgia, became adjutant of the Corps, and Joseph Lawrence Keitt, of Newberry, South Carolina, was made a captain. Jacob T. Barron was Commander that year and Boggan Cash was Scribe. Barron was the only senior officer the Chapter had in the Corps; but Cash and Ellett were



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

INITIATED INTO ALPHA CHAPTER DURING COLLEGE YEAR 1875-76

1, George Kennon; 2, H. Ross Hudson; 3, Andrew L. Ellett; 4, Robert W. Massie; 5, Lindsay Fairfax; 6, P. Dudley Calhoun; 7, Victor J. Robertson; 8, Thomas T. Holloway; 9, Thomas P. Thompson.

sergeants in the second class, and were slated to be captains the next year. These two were at that time inseparable companions, and the most popular and picturesque pair on the campus. Together with many admirable virtues, they had in common a failing for enjoying a fight. The Corps seemed to be unusually bellicose in character at that particular time, and the fact may have contributed to the general favor won by Cash and Ellett. It should be borne in mind that these men were representative of their time, their promotion to first and second captaincies having been upon recommendation of the Commandant, such selection usually conforming with the opinion of the Corps.

Boggan Cash inherited a propensity for dueling, his father having participated in three famous encounters of the kind in South Carolina, one with a governor of that State. The last, a fatal duel, had much to do with discontinuance of the custom once common in South Carolina. Boggan was a big, kind-hearted fellow, six-feet-four in height; not quarrelsome, but quick to insist upon defending his honor or to fight for a friend. "Taz" Ellett was more inclined to pugnacity, not from ill-natured disposition, but for the love of a fight. He lacked the physique of Cash, but had courage unlimited, and odds against him never restrained his willingness to fight.

Rivalry between cadets and Washington and Lee students reached an acute status that year, and provided one of the memorable contests of "Taz" Ellett's combative career. At a football game between the two institutions, the old-style game in which many players participated, difficulties arose, and the controversy resolved itself into a fight, with "Taz" as one of the principals. He took the initiative in the contest, and his adversary remained on the defensive, while "Taz" forced the fighting. Thus the encounter continued with the prospect that "Taz" would eventually wear himself out. The Commandant entered the ring formed by several hundred spectators, and tried to stop the fight; but in vain. The officer of the day, Caskie, a Sigma Nu, drew his sword and attempted to stop the encounter; but "Taz" fought on, and probably would have exhausted himself had not long roll sounded at barracks, the call to arms to which every soldier instantly responds. This device stopped the fight, and Sergeant Tazwell Ellett called the roll of Company C as calmly as if nothing had happened.

In this company the captain had been reduced to ranks for misdemeanor. As the fellow walked to mess hall one evening he was swinging his arms with the mien of an officer. "Taz" admonished him for this. The two had been close friends. At the table the deposed captain took exception to the criticism. "Taz" made no reply then, but later, when out of ranks, he started the response with his fists. He was greatly outmatched, and soon was being overpowered. Boggan Cash observed this, and stepping up declared: "I will fight for 'Taz'." The subsequent fistic battle was staged on Bloody Island, and for days Boggan bore the marks of the fierce battle fought for his friend.

This close friendship between Cash and Ellett was ruptured the next year by a disagreement over accommodations for their respective companies on a trip to Richmond. Later the eternal feminine appeared and widened the breach. A noted prima donna of that day visited in Lexington. Cards of youthful

















ALPHA INITIATES OF THE COLLEGE YEARS, 1876-77 AND 1877-78

1, W. Hampton Wade; 2, John G. Paxton; 3, John H. French; 4, William H. Wells; 5, Eugene H. Crowdus; 6, William B. Pettit; 7, Freeman V. Walker; 8, Thomas Owens.

admirers deluged her, but most fervently her favor was sought by the two highest captains. In this rivalry Cash and Ellett clashed. A challenge was given, and a duel was arranged. The prospect aroused the intervention of mutual friends who tried to reconcile matters. But plans for the duel persisted. Boggan's father sent his brace of long-barreled, hair-trigger dueling pistols. An all night meeting of seconds and other friends finally settled difficulties before the dawn of the appointed day, and restored the amity which a trifling misunderstanding and quick temper had profaned.

The Chapter's wavering morale was further impaired by this near-tragic disruption of its harmony, and the improvement anticipated by a considerable increase in membership was greatly neutralized. Numerous defections from the four-year course further dissipated hope promised by the numerical gain. Twelve new members were taken in that year, 1875-76, but only four of them remained to complete their courses. These were George Kennon, of Richmond; Thomas P. Thompson, of Abbeville, South Carolina; Victor J. Robinson, of Blackshear, Georgia; and Thomas T. Holloway, of Dallas, Texas. Robinson and Thompson rose to the rank of lieutenant. Holloway became adjutant in his senior year, and won first honors in scholarship. Robert W. Massie, of Virginia, initiated with this group, had attained military rank and was president of the Dialectic Literary Society when the death of his father forced his retirement from the Corps. Massie brought honor to Sigma Nu in after years when he became president of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Military Institute. The other initiates of the year 1875-76. who did not remain for the full course at V. M. I., were H. Ross Hudson. Lindsay Fairfax, Andrew L. Ellett, Graham H. Harris. Grenville K. Gaines, P. Dudley Calhoun and John Warfield. William F. Parr was Commander for the year 1875-76, and Lawrence Keitt was Scribe.

Six worthy men were taken in the next year. 1876-77, but departure of four of them to pursue studies elsewhere deprived the Chapter of their usefulness. Each member won distinction at the respective universities attended. But to the immediate need of Alpha for members, the glory of all but one was of no avail. John G. Paxton, coming from a highly honored family of Lexington. continued his studies at Washington and Lee. where he was graduated in 1878. winning the debater's medal. He retained membership in the Chapter, and was one of its principal assets. The two initiates who remained and were graduated at Virginia Military Institute were William Hampton Wade. of Savannah, Georgia, and John H. French, of New York. French was made Scribe under Burke Shewmake as Commander. the next year being advanced to the higher office with Wade as Scribe. Thus the direction of the Chapter during the college year 1877-78 fell to members with but one year's experience.

Out of eighteen members initiated in two years, but six remained to be graduated. One of them, Victor Robinson, completed his course in the spring of 1877. At the opening of the final year of the Fraternity's first decade, the men who stood between Alpha and extinction were Kennon, Thompson, Holloway, Wade. Paxton and French. Four men were initiated in the fall of 1877. The first of the number. William J. Agar. of New Orleans, died that year in the V. M. I. hospital. The other initiates of that year, Eugene H. Crowdus,

of Dallas, Texas, William H. Wells, of Cortez, Colorado, and J. N. Lee, of Independence, Missouri, with Wade and French, were all that was left of Alpha Chapter after the 1878 finals. The election of William Hampton Wade as Commander the next fall marked the start of the second decade and the beginning of an epoch so contrasted to the closing of the first ten-year period, and of such vital significance, that pause is appropriate before continuing with the chronicles.

The causes contributing to the decline of Alpha at this period were not entirely local, nor were they altogether within the power of the Chapter to prevent. This era in the development of Greek-letter fraternities was the most threatening in their history. Not even disrupting experiences during the Civil War period menaced the system as did a combination of causes which were created by the conduct of certain fraternity groups, resulting in widespread misunderstanding of fundamental motives of college Greek-letter societies. Lack of successful expansion was the principal deficiency in Sigma Nu's first decade. Efforts had been made, but generally they were in vain. It was an ill-boding time for a young fraternity to try to grow, and it was difficult for a local to maintain its integrity. Hostile faculties and unscrupulous rivals beset the way of growth, and ruthless methods of fraternities, greedily fighting for prestige, threatened the life of weaker organizations. Preliminary to recording the entry of Sigma Nu into the broader sphere of Hellenic associations, a review of general fraternity history is relevant.

CHAPTER VI

Pan-Hellas

THE first American college secret society to be given a Greek-letter name was Phi Beta Kappa. It was founded December 5, 1776, at the College of William and Mary, which then was in its eighty-fourth year. Williamsburg, the birthplace of Phi Beta Kappa, was at that time the seat of government in Virginia. Stirring events were transpiring during that period. The royal Governor had been forced from the State, and the Declaration of Independence had been signed. Its author was a member of the Assembly of the Commonwealth in session at Williamsburg at the time that Phi Beta Kappa was organized. In the Apollo Room at the Raleigh Tavern, where Patrick Henry had voiced Virginia's revolutionary spirit, the first meeting of the society was held.

It is strangely true that the origin of Phi Beta Kappa was entirely free from influence of these momentous events and historic associations. It was inspired "by a happy spirit and resolution of attaining the important ends of society."



RALEIGH TAVERN
In the Apollo Room of this tavern was held the first meeting of a college Greek-letter fraternity.

Consistent with such motive, literary exercises were featured in the meetings, and piety was evidenced in the proceedings. In the Code of Laws, it was asserted "that in every design or attempt, whether great or small, we ought to invoke the Deity, by some private sacrifice or devotion, for a fraternal pros-

perity." The Oath of Fidelity, to which each member was sworn, was as follows:

"I, A. B., do swear on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, or otherwise as calling the Supreme Being to attest this my oath, declaring that I will, with all my possible efforts, endeavor to prove true, just and deeply attached to this our growing Fraternity, in keeping, holding and preserving all secrets that pertain to my duty, and for the promotion and advancement of its internal welfare."

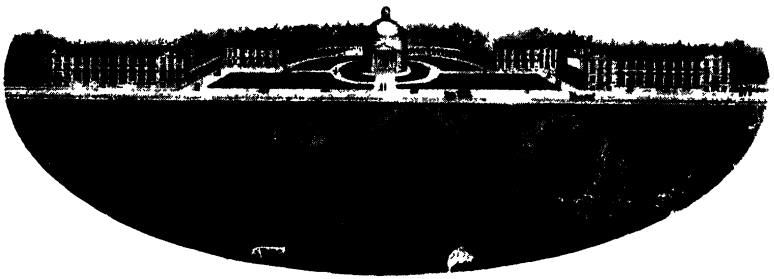
In the beginning, only collegians were admitted; but after the first year this restriction was removed. The first charter grants were made for non-collegiate "meetings" authorized in certain towns and counties in Virginia. These "meetings" bore designations in the order of the Greek alphabet. The first college branches were authorized in 1779 for Harvard and Yale. The first to be established was at Yale in 1780, originally intended to be known as Zeta, but instead called "Alpha of Connecticut". At Harvard, the next year, "Alpha of Massachusetts Bay" was organized. In the meantime, confusion incident to the Revolutionary War had closed William and Mary College, causing suspension of activities of the Mother Society. Further extension and perpetuation of Phi Beta Kappa devolved upon these New England Chapters. In 1787, the Societies at Yale and Harvard agreed upon a charter for Dartmouth College. During the next thirty years, no other grant was made. In 1817, a chapter was established at Union College, Schenectady, New York. Out of this circumstance began the development of the present order of college Greek-letter fraternities. Imitation or opposition inspired the formation of similar organizations, which grew with increasing rapidity into the modern conception of the system. The first of three pioneer orders at Union College was Kappa Alpha Society, founded in 1825. The advent of Sigma Phi followed in 1827, and later the same year



COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
As it appeared when Phi Beta Kappa was founded there.

Delta Phi was organized. These three organizations became known in general fraternity history as the Union Triad. The first of the trio to extend membership beyond local confines was Sigma Phi, which in 1831 established a chapter at Hamilton College. Two years later Kappa Alpha Society granted a petition to a group at Williams College, and Sigma Phi followed there the next year.

Opposition to these three fraternities at Union College began soon after their organization, their secret nature causing the faculty to look upon them with suspicion. This disfavor culminated in threatened regulations against the existence of such societies, but their defence was satisfactorily presented, and their continuance was not interrupted. More aggressive antagonism arose at Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts, where, in 1834, the anti-secret



UNION COLLEGE
The Union Triad of fraternities founded there were forerunners of the Greek-letter society system.

"Social Fraternity" was organized for the purpose of driving out the secret societies. Intense feeling characterized the contest between the two factions for several years. In 1839, Kappa Alpha initiated several influential members of the opposition, resulting in an attack upon its quarters. Establishment of other fraternities in time neutralized much of this antagonism, but the "Social Fraternity" continued its opposition, and later became a unit in a broader effort conducted under the name of the "Anti-Secret Federation".

Gradually these opposing elements modified their aims, at a convention in 1881 adopting the term non-secret instead of anti-secret, and finally merging into what became the Delta Upsilon fraternity, a friendly rival instead of a foe of the system. Delta Upsilon observes the same privacy in its meetings that other fraternities practice, conforming to secrecy by custom instead of requiring it by oath. Its initiatory service, while not admitted to be secret, is regarded as purely private. No secret significance is attached to its motto, and Delta Upsilon has no secret grip or password. Otherwise, it conducts its affairs much in the manner of secret college fraternities. Early chapters of the non-secret

alliance were principally in the East. But western extension has been steady since the amalgamation under the name of Delta Upsilon, which fraternity now has a roll of fifty active chapters.

Antagonism to college secret societies was a part of a general movement against secret orders beginning in 1826. The mysterious disappearance that year of a member of the Masonic Lodge, who had threatened to divulge its secrets, led to widespread opposition to every kind of secret organization. The movement was primarily anti-Masonic; but college fraternities shared the attack. As a result, in 1831, the Harvard chapter of Phi Beta Kappa absolved itself of its secret nature, and prevailed upon the chapter at Yale to do likewise. At that time Pi Beta Kappa ceased its existence as a secret social fraternity, and became purely honorary in its designs.

The chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at Union College, like its progenitors at Yale and Harvard, was a senior society. The same limitation at first restricted membership in the fraternities composing the Union Triad. In many respects these societies inclined toward exclusive upperclass clubs of certain Eastern institutions, rather than tending toward the general policy of the Greek-letter fraternity system as it developed in other sections. This Eastern influence that affected the fraternities of the Union Triad has not been absolute, but it is marked. After a period of one hundred years, the combined totals of their living chapters number only thirty-three, and of the twenty-three institutions embraced the University of Virginia is the only one in the South, and only four universities west of the State of New York are included.

The extension of Sigma Phi to Hamilton College, Clinton, New York, influenced the founding of Alpha Delta Phi there in 1832, although antagonism between two literary societies was responsible for its inception. The modern development of fraternities is more directly resultant from action by Alpha Delta Phi than due to the course of the trio founded previously. In its second year, the founder of Alpha Delta Phi personally established a chapter at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. This was a radical departure from precedent, extension having been confined within the states of New York and Massachusetts. This anomaly was not indicative of the early policy of Alpha Delta Phi, which during the next fifty years rarely granted a charter outside of the East. In 1850, a chapter was established at the University of Alabama, but it was driven out by antifraternity laws. Its alumni organized a chapter at Cumberland University, which died during the war, and Alpha Delta Phi has never reentered the South. Difficulties in harmonizing the need of central strength and the habit of chapters in exercising independent action developed serious controversy in Alpha Delta Phi at one time. After this was settled, it was twelve years before another chapter was established, and a period of forty years elapsed without extension west of the Alleghenies. The active chapter roll totals only twenty-six.

A fourth fraternity was founded at Union College in 1833, Psi Upsilon generating from an association of students engaged in college politics. For nearly thirty years its chapters were confined entirely to the East. After the establishment of two chapters in the Central West, a period of twenty-two

years passed without extension outside the Eastern section. In its present roll of twenty-six chapters, but eight are west of the Alleghenies. All these chapters are in the North, Southern extension never having been undertaken by Psi Upsilon.

In some respects, all these organizations founded in the East have retained a degree of sectional restraint which distinguishes them from fraternities that are truly national in character. They were forerunners rather than forebears of the present system. From the first extension of Alpha Delta Phi, however, sprang the influence which marked the beginning of fraternities thoroughly representative in their range of activity. For four years after the establishment of its chapter at Miami University, Alpha Delta Phi ruled unopposed. In conflict with its political control, certain students there were impressed with the advantages of compact organization, and in 1839 formed the fraternity of Beta Theta Pi. It was the first of three fraternities founded there, which composed a group that became known as the Miami Triad, and whose growth has been similarly national in character. Extension of Beta Theta Pi began the year after its founding, with the establishment of three other chapters in the State of Ohio. Its movement then turned south into Kentucky, then east into Pennsylvania. Its strongest influence, however, grew toward the West, when it crossed the boundary line of the State of Indiana. Southern extension dominated several periods of its growth, and in its roll are included twenty-eight Southern institutions, several of which are numbered among the twenty-three inactive chapters. There are eighty-three living chapters of Beta Theta Pi, widely representative in location.

Fraternity foundings after 1839 were confined to the East for almost a decade. Union College for the fifth time produced a new fraternity, when Chi Psi was organized in 1841. Its policy of expansion varied from that of its early contemporaries at Union College, chapters established at the University of Michigan, in 1845, and at the University of Minnesota, in 1874, having been pioneer entries in these Western institutions. These two were among twenty chapters established up to that time, and no policy of western inclination is indicated thereby. Southern grants were more consistent, five of the first fifteen chapters having been located in the South. Eastern growth greatly dominated its conservative progress, however, until in recent years tardy expansion in the West has helped to balance the roll of twenty-two living chapters. Chi Psi has eleven dormant chapters.

The largest and most representative fraternity of Eastern origin is Delta Kappa Epsilon, established in 1844 as a junior society at Yale by a group of students who had expected to be invited to membership in another junior organization. Not all having been included in the selection, none of them joined, and the new society resulted. Its chapters in other places, excepting a sophomore society at Harvard, embraced members of all classes. Extension in the East began the year of its founding, but in its third year it turned southward, and in the next five years seven of its ten new chapters were placed in that section. Sixteen chapters in all have been located in the South. Growth in the West was retarded; but it has become fairly representative in the roll of

forty-three living chapters. Fourteen inactive chapters are listed by Delta Kappa Epsilon.

Zeta Psi was founded at New York University in 1846. Its growth in the East was steady, but in other sections extension was stinted. Two chapters in the South and two in the West were the only variations among twenty-two chapters established in the first two decades. A spectacular exception to this sectional policy was made in 1870. when Zeta Psi crossed the continent and was first to enter the University of California. It was first also in Canada,



MIAMI UNIVERSITY
Birthplace of the Miami Triad of fraternities, aggressive pioneers in national development of the system.

having placed a chapter at the University of Toronto in 1879. For thirteen years this was the only American college fraternity existing beyond the border. The most consistent action since the early Eastern extension of Zeta Psi has been directed toward belated Western growth, its last six chapters having trailed the movement of other fraternities in that direction. The most circumscribed in growth of all fraternities of Eastern origin is Delta Psi, founded in 1847 at Columbia College, now Columbia University. Its only deviation was in the South, where seven of its nineteen chapters were established. The Civil War and withdrawals relegated all but one of these branches to the roll of twelve extinct chapters, leaving but six surviving, all in states bordering on the Atlantic seaboard. Theta Delta Chi, founded at Union College in 1847, grew more rapidly in the East, but grants in other directions were rare. Such exceptions were usually short-lived, and successful chapters were not maintained west of the Alleghenies during its first half-century. Eight of the last fourteen additions have been in this broader field. But they are insufficient in number to balance the list of thirty living chapters and make Theta Delta Chi a repre-

sentative national fraternity in the broad sense that the term is used.

In its major development, the Greek-letter fraternity system grew toward the East, rather than from that direction. The first indication of such trend was manifested in 1848, when Phi Gamma Delta was organized at Jefferson College, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, which institution later was merged into Washington and Jefferson College at Washington, Pennsylvania. One of the founders of the fraternity had been a student at Miami University for two years. Beta Theta Pi previously had established a chapter at Jefferson College, and through this



JEFFERSON COLLEGE
An important seat of development in the growth of the college Greek-letter fraternity system.

dual influence from Miami University Phi Gamma Delta derived its inspiration from west of its birthplace. Jefferson College drew its matriculates largely from the South. Many of the members of Pi Gamma Delta were from that section and, as a result, all but five of its first sixteen chapters were in Southern institutions. The extension of the fraternity later assumed a thoroughly national trend that has made it one of the most representative. Eighty-nine chapters have been established, twenty-five of which have become inactive.

The second member of the Miami Triad was founded in 1848, when Phi Delta Theta began a *sub rosa* existence there. No faculty opposition threatened it, and at that time there were no rivals, Alpha Delta Phi and Beta Theta Pi having suspended activities the previous year. Nevertheless, Phi Delta Theta chose a *sub rosa* status, and maintained it for four years. When the membership of the chapter outgrew the capacity of students' rooms where they met, a second chapter was organized, the two operating independently at Miami until public acknowledgment of the fraternity's existence in 1852. The western boundary of the Greek-letter fraternity sphere was extended in 1849, when Phi Delta Theta made its first grant beyond its birthplace, establishing a chapter at Indiana

University. The next move was south, and presaged a consistent attitude toward Southern extension as a part of a policy which produced a roll of ninety living chapters, well distributed geographically. In addition, Phi Delta Theta has established twenty-four chapters which have become inactive.

In 1850, Phi Kappa Sigma was founded at the University of Pennsylvania. For five years its growth was principally confined to colleges in that State. Extension then turned to the South, where in the second five-year period eight chapters were established. The Civil War and other catastrophes made a long casualty list among the early chapters of Phi Kappa Sigma, and the fraternity was slow in counteracting the losses. In its forty-fifth year there were only eleven chapters living, nineteen chapters being inactive. Since then, additions and revivals have reversed the ratio, thirty-one active chapters giving Phi Kappa Sigma a national aspect. In 1852, the State of Pennsylvania contributed another new fraternity, when Phi Kappa Psi was founded at Jefferson College. It grew out of friendships formed during an epidemic of typhoid fever, when those not afflicted devoted themselves to caring for the stricken. Like Phi Gamma Delta, also founded there, the course of early growth of Phi Kappa Psi was in the direction from which so many Jefferson College matriculates came. Nine chapters were placed in the South before extension in other directions began. Since the Civil War, expansion has been more general. Sixty-eight chapters have been established by Phi Kappa Psi, twenty-one of which are now inactive. The sphere of the fraternity's operation is broad.

The founding of Chi Phi is dated 1854, when a fraternity of that name was organized at Princeton University. Its existence now is the result of the union of three organizations established independently, but all adopting the same name. Confusion incident to independent operation included the acceptance of charters by groups unaware of the complex situation. The Washington and Lee chapter, established by the northern order, believed itself a part of the southern order of Chi Phi. Activities aroused by this dilemma brought about the union of the two organizations. The northern fraternity had been formed by the union of the Chi Phi order founded at Hobart College, Geneva, New York, in 1868, with the *sub rosa* Princeton order founded in 1854. Of the three original groups, the southern order was most active in extension, contributing fifteen chapters to the merger. The northern order included two southern charters in its list of eleven chapters. Since the union, some western petitions have been granted. But extension has been very slow, the roll of twenty-five active chapters only recently exceeding in number the list of twenty-four which are inactive.

The third member of the Miami Triad, Sigma Chi, was founded in 1855. Its organization resulted from a division in the chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon over the election of one of the members to office in a literary society. This Miami chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon had been formed following similar disruption, when six members of the parent chapter of Phi Delta Theta disagreed with the majority, withdrawing and accepting a charter from Delta Kappa Epsilon. This second defecting group named the new fraternity Sigma Phi, without any relationship to the Union College society of that name. The

next year, after their ritual and records had been stolen by rivals, they reorganized and adopted the name Sigma Chi. Extension had previously been begun by placing a chapter at Ohio Wesleyan University, this offspring assuming responsibilities when the parent chapter disbanded in 1858. Two charters at that time had been granted in the South, and one in each neighboring state, east and west. Consistent extension in all directions has continued, resulting in a widespread distribution of ninety-nine chapters. Twenty-two of the number are now inactive.

With the completion of the Miami Triad in 1855, seventeen fraternities had been founded in the thirty years after Kappa Alpha led the way at Union College. The most significant feature of extension up to that time was the favor shown Southern institutions. Of the forty-five chapters established by fraternities outside their sectional spheres, thirty-five had been placed in the South. Coincident with this activity of northern-born societies in that section, similar organizations had been founded and propagated there, later becoming extinct. One of these defunct societies is believed to have antedated the Union College fraternities. But its history is uncertain and cannot be reliably traced as a part of the development of the general fraternity system. It is said to have been founded in 1812 at the University of North Carolina. It was called Kappa Alpha, but had no connection with two other fraternities of the same name. Its secret work bore resemblance to that of the original Phi Beta Kappa society at William and Mary College, from which source it probably emanated. The branches were called "circles", and were given Greek-letter designations. At least twenty-one "circles" are believed to have been established in the South, including several community societies organized for social and literary purposes. Its secrets were divulged in 1855, and continued defections thereafter completely disintegrated the organization.

A secret society of less proportions, but of stronger influence in the South, was the Mystical Seven, differing from Greek-letter fraternities only in name, and in the use of the term "temples" instead of chapters. It was founded at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, in 1837. Although northern in birth, it was southern in growth, as in reality it was after the parent and a single northern progeny deserted the eight southern "temples". The Rainbow, or "W. W. W." fraternity as it was first known, founded at the University of Mississippi in 1849, closely resembled the Mystical Seven, having the same password, both using the rainbow as a symbol, and bearing other cabalistic similarities. It had thirteen chapters in the South, to which section its growth was confined. Most of the chapters of these two societies were absorbed by Greek-letter rivals, but for years these organizations were an active part of the fraternity life which characterized the South as the most fertile field for fraternity development.

The first fraternity of Southern origin to be perpetual in existence was Sigma Alpha Epsilon, founded at the University of Alabama in 1856. Its growth was very rapid, but was practically confined to the South for thirty years. Many secondary institutions were included in its early extension, contributing largely to a long list of defunct chapters. Forty-nine chapters had been established

before the first permanent northern chapter was founded. After that success, extension became general and continued rapidly. The roll of Sigma Alpha Epsilon totals one hundred and twenty-five chapters, thirty-one of which are inactive.

Delta Tau Delta was founded at Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia, in 1859, as a result of opposition to political control of Phi Kappa Psi, which fraternity had existed there alone for two years. Early and rapid extension saved Delta Tau Delta from extinction as a local, when Bethany College closed during confusion prior to the opening of the Civil War. Jefferson College was the first to receive a charter, the chapter there assuming responsibilities when the parent chapter became inactive. Only neighboring states were embraced in early expansion, but after the war Delta Tau Delta grew widely. There are sixty-six active and twenty-three inactive chapters on its roll.

The Civil War almost completely disrupted this system of fellowship which had been steadily growing for thirty-five years, uniting young college men of all sections in bonds of brotherhood, and cementing matured relationships with its mystic, fraternal influence. These ties were not entirely severed by the conflict between the states. But intercourse was virtually abandoned, and in the South practically every fraternity ceased activity. In the North, the consequences were less severe, but nevertheless were disastrous. Out of the grievous catastrophe the remnants of fraternities struggled to save their depleted organizations, which survived in some places where collegiate activity had not been suspended. The prospect in the South was so uncertain that this previously favored section was not at once restored to former approbation as a field for extension, and revivals were generally neglected because of such misgivings. Manifestly, the need and desire for fellowship in the South at that time was most compelling. How natural it was, therefore, that the seed so widely disseminated in that fruitful field of fraternalism should germinate and flourish, producing so copiously the finest flower of fellowship!

It has already been recounted that Lexington, Virginia, became a cynosure of social aspiration and of intellectual ambition of young Southern men after the war, and how the manifold influences generated there radiated throughout the South. As culture was promoted and the nobler instincts of men were fostered, so there was revived and reconsecrated the inherent impulses that had made the South quickly responsive to the appeal of Greek-letter college fraternities. Thus it was that this hallowed spot in the Valley of Virginia became a center of fraternity activity after the war had wrecked the extensive foundations of the system that had been constructed in the South.

Following the establishment of Alpha Tau Omega at Virginia Military Institute in 1865, the circumstances of which previously have been related, Kappa Alpha (Southern) was founded at the neighboring college which became Washington and Lee University. The parenthetical designation is commonly employed to distinguish this society from two others using the same Greek letters, but having no interconnecting history. The application is also appropriate to signify the peculiar limitations of this fraternity, which by statute confines its chapters to the South. Its embryonic inception at Washington College was in a

fraternity of a different name, which was reorganized by one of the members as an agency to resist in academic fields certain influences which, in economic and political spheres, were then meeting violent opposition from masked members of a secret political organization. Since then, Kappa Alpha (Southern) has been perpetuated "to foster and maintain the manners, customs and ideals of character and achievement, other than sectional, of the Southern people." Its fifty-four active chapters are all in the South, except two in the southern half of California, which anomaly is harmonized by the residence in that State of many families of Southern origin. Alpha Tau Omega adopted the contrary policy, and was the first fraternity of Southern origin to enter a Northern university. Alpha Tau Omega has eighty-five active chapters, and an inactive roll of twenty-two chapters.

The State of Virginia was the sole source of fraternity foundings for several years after the war, five new orders originating there in as many years. Two of these fraternities were founded at the University of Virginia, Pi Kappa Alpha in 1868, and Kappa Sigma in 1869. The former for many years was confined to the South by constitutional provision, but has since removed this limitation, institutions in every section being included in the list of fifty-nine active chapters. Kappa Sigma began extension the year of its founding, but its first effort failed and another attempt was not made for several years. After a successful start, growth continued aggressively, and one of the largest chapter rolls of Greek-letter fraternities has been acquired by Kappa Sigma, a total of ninety-two chapters surviving nineteen that are inactive. With Virginia's contribution of five fraternities, the demoralized prospect in the South was not dependent upon the revitalizing processes necessary to restore fraternities of the North to former vigor and vision, in order that they might resume Southern extension and undertake revivals in that section.

When Sigma Nu was founded in 1869, forty-four years had passed since the inauguration of the fraternity system at Union College. Age then, as now, was considered an asset, but at that time any such advantage had been rendered almost valueless by depletion and by disorganization during the Civil War. Most fraternities that had made progress found themselves involved in complex situations more embarrassing than the impotency of youthfulness. Much that had been accomplished had been undone, and the relapse experienced by the fraternity system made antiquity rather a vain boast. Furthermore, maturity tended to mislead certain fraternities into practices that outraged interfraternity relationships and brought all into ill repute.

The struggle to achieve and to maintain strength, for many years after the Civil War, resulted in a vicious application of the rule of survival of the fittest. An era of piracy ensued, and at that time it became the will of some fraternities deliberately to seek disruption of rivals by inducing disloyalty. In this sordid procedure, older fraternities had little or no respect for the integrity of younger organizations, and when it suited their aims to enter a new field, a favorite method was by seducing a chapter of another fraternity to violate its charter and desert. In this way, many promising young fraternities were ravished, and it became the fear of others that the same malicious forces might disrupt

their growing organizations. There was no honor among these malefactors, and some of the offending ones suffered the atrocity they inflicted upon others. This practice was called "lifting", and similar corruption was carried on by fraternities "lifting" individuals in local spheres. It was once considered great glory to induce a member of a rival fraternity to violate his oath and join the offending fraternity. Such infamy was practiced to some degree in most places where rival organizations existed, and the bitterness aroused led to widespread condemnation of fraternities.

Disreputable acts of various nature were a part of the perverted conduct among fraternities. Stealing and destruction of records were considered pastime by rivals perpetrating such outrages. If a ritual or other secret papers were found, such documents were flagrantly misused, and copies were made and sent to other places for similar perversion. Other processes less odious were employed to embarrass and to outwit rivals. Lady friends often were made allies in plotting, and pledges sometimes were led to delinquencies by withholding acknowledgment of their commitment, thus duping unsuspecting rivals. Misrepresentation of facts was common occurrence, and there were no limits in the practice of maligning one another. At a national convention of a fraternity founded in the North, but active in Southern extension, the report was circulated that negroes were included in the membership of this organization, and that delegates of color were to attend the convention. Preceding the ball, when ladies were gathered for the social climax of the convention, colored youths wearing imitation badges passed through the corridors, lingering long enough to give credence to rival claims, but not allowing time for lynching parties to be organized before they disappeared.

Public sentiment was offended by conduct of fraternities, and indignation against them grew to serious forebodings. They were regarded as nuisances and sources of iniquity, harmful to the youth and degrading to educational institutions which harbored them. As a result, official injunction against fraternities was adopted by many colleges and universities, and an antifraternity movement of menacing proportions threatened to abolish the entire system. In some states this ban was not imposed by faculties alone, legislatures enacting laws prohibiting fraternities in colleges and universities under state control.

It was in the midst of this agitation that the first extension of Sigma Nu had been attempted. By virtue of its immaturity, the Fraternity escaped these unsavory experiences that had brought about this opposition, and its traditions are unblemished by such aberrations. Its history was vitally affected by the situation, however, since the flood-tide of antifraternity feeling engulfed some of the early Chapters, and materially retarded the growth of the Fraternity. In the crisis near the end of Alpha's first decade, deterioration was largely due to lack of faith and want of determined interest in the future of the Fraternity. External influences were greatly responsible for this internal apathy. Vision was needed to sense the necessity for extension as the energizing force that would revive the spirit of Alpha and perpetuate the Fraternity. Leadership was the crying need of Sigma Nu at the beginning of its second decade.

CHAPTER VII

Regeneration

THE critical situation that threatened the life of Alpha Chapter and the existence of Sigma Nu was gravely realized by the five members who returned to Lexington in the fall of 1878. John H. French, William Hampton Wade, Eugene H. Crowdus, William H. Wells and J. N. Lee composed this group which stood between Sigma Nu and extinction. Serious-minded William Hampton Wade was Commander, and his keen power of perception enabled him to sense quickly the necessity for immediate action, if the Fraternity was to be saved. Knowledge of the desperate condition of Sigma Nu was not confined within the Chapter. The fact was generally known throughout the Corps. The acute status of a congested situation rendered less cordial the feeling among the fraternities. The elimination of the weaker ones was the hope of the stronger organizations. This attitude was not merely passive. Moving along a dark corridor one night, Commander Wade overheard plotting among traditional rivals of Sigma Nu.

"The Whitefeet are now few and insignificant, and we can crush them out," one of them declared.

Hampton Wade, as he was called, was a quiet, deliberate, deep-thinking youth, diligent in anything he attempted, and devoted to duty in any responsibility that devolved upon him. He was devout in Christian faith, sincerely reverent and almost pious in his professions. Like the Founders of Sigma Nu and the progenitors of the first Greek-letter society, he believed that in every grave undertaking there should be invoked the guidance and inspiration of Deity. Deeply concerned over the decline of the Fraternity, and incensed by the threat of its downfall, Commander Wade called together the members of the depleted Chapter, and with hands clasped on the Holy Bible adjured them to new vows of fidelity. They solemnly pledged themselves to the upbuilding of Alpha and to the saving of the Fraternity, agreeing to pursue the effort with a determination to double the membership within a month. They ordered five new badges, and set themselves to securing suitable candidates for bestowing them. Although lacking in prestige as a Chapter, the personal appeal of their Commander was stimulating. Hampton Wade was compelling in his quiet and conscientious way. He was courteous in manner and possessed a mellow and winning voice that was persuasive.

The acquirement of new members of desirable character had become a complex difficulty in the local field. Other fraternities had been attracted by the prominence and the personnel of Virginia Military Institute. The number of

acceptable cadets was insufficient to maintain all the organizations at high standard. Alpha Tau Omega, Kappa Alpha (S) and Beta Theta Pi had continued their activity with declining fortunes, similar to the experiences of Sigma Nu. Kappa Sigma. Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Phi Delta Theta had entered. and Sigma Chi was conducting a merged chapter embracing both cadets and Washington and Lee students. In addition to inadequacy of fraternity material caused by this congestion of the field. faculty hostility had increased. Alpha Chapter was handicapped in that but one of its members, John French, was a first-classman. The other four were more limited in privileges, and the Chapter was lacking in the influence that only first-classmen commanded. The spirit of the members was sufficient to surmount these difficulties. however, and five initiates were added during the year 1878-79. Of these. Thomas Jackson Charlton, of Savannah. Georgia, and William J. Crocker, of Calvert. Texas, were graduated with rank of lieutenant. Crocker won second honor in scholarship. Alexander B. B. Harris, Louis T. Barrett and C. Tyler Longstreet, the other new members taken in during the fall of 1878, did not complete the full course.



WILLIAM HAMPTON WADE
Eminent Commander of Alpha during college years 1878-79 and 1879-80. His faith and zeal inspired a revival that saved the Fraternity from threatened extinction.

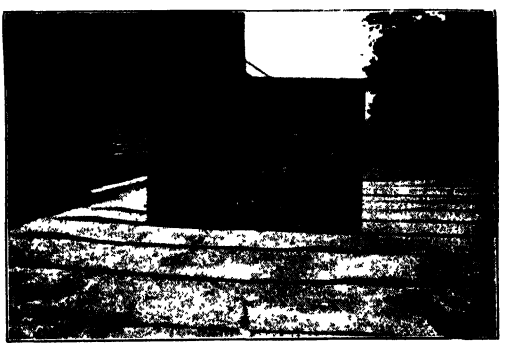
With these accessions to the Chapter initiated, and perpetuation of the Fraternity at least temporarily assured, Commander Wade studied the shortcomings of the past to ascertain how another relapse might be avoided. Among evidences of laxity that had fostered carelessness and caused consequent loss of respect and interest by successive officers, he observed the woeful lack of system that had prevailed, and the want of a secure repository for valuable records of the Fraternity. He assorted and arranged what papers had not been lost or destroyed, and had a strong box made to keep the records secure and in order. This chest, which came into the possession of the Fraternity, is a unique and significant token of the permanence of the work of William Hampton Wade.

Commander Wade was re-elected for the college year 1879-80, the only time in the history of Chapter I that this honor was twice conferred on a member. The distinction had been deservedly won, and was further justified in the record of Alpha during the second year of Hampton Wade's leadership. Seven new members were gained for Sigma Nu, two of whom became captains, Paul McCombs, of Texas, in the class of 1881, and Philip Grymes Omohundro, of Vir-

ginia, in the class of 1883. The other initiates of the year 1879-80 were Horace P. Bougere, Frank M. Zeigler, John H. Winder, Alexander Cameron and William H. Williams, one of whom, Bougere, completed the full course.

Eugene Crowdus was Scribe of Chapter I during the year 1879-80. Considering this period of renaissance from the point of low ebb preceding, or looking back upon the consequences, the student of Sigma Nu history must be impressed by this irresistible combination of power and determination united in Wade and Crowdus. When Hampton Wade was graduated that year, the Commandership and virtually all the responsibilities that the two had shared was accepted by Eugene Crowdus. The regenesis and regnancy of Alpha was not sufficient range for the organizing ability of Commander Crowdus. He began anew the effort toward expansion, realizing that this was necessary to maintain the impelling motive that would perpetuate the Fraternity. At this period, the status of extension was almost nil. A review of collapsed endeavor, which would have discouraged anyone but a genius such as Crowdus, is fitting preface to the recording of the achievement that made him renowned as the First Expansionist.

The activities of Chapter II, founded at the University of Virginia in 1870, terminated at the end of that year with the departure of its founder and the four members he had initiated. The connection of this chapter with Beta of later history is merely nominal. Except for the reference in Alpha's minutes to "the Chapter that Mr. Drane has established at the University," record of its founding probably would have been lost, as were records giving the location of other Chapters believed to have perished in the incipient stage. The practice at that time was to give to each member, on leaving V. M. I., a charter privilege to establish a Chapter in such a place as he might deem favorable. Chapter III thus was connected in almost a mythical way with the Bailey Law School, a private institution at Asheville, North Carolina, which John P. Arthur, of Alpha, attended after graduation from Virginia Military Institute. It is known that Arthur initiated one James G. Martin with the intention of organizing a Chapter there, but no other initiation ever was recorded. The desire of early officials to show that the Fraternity was growing led them unfortunately to designate this abortive effort as Gamma Chapter, which since has been carried on the rolls as a defunct Chapter.



ALPHA'S CHEST
Strong box which Commander Wade had made in 1878 for the records of Alpha Chapter.

The establishment of Chapter IV was less fabulous, but equally unavailing in its relationship to effective expansion of the Fraternity. At this period of de-

velopment of Greek-letter societies, grants were made by several fraternities seeking to propagate active membership among non-collegians. Such a Chapter of Sigma Nu was established at Tarboro, North Carolina, in 1874, by W. W. Dancey, of Alpha. Eight young business men of the community were initiated, and constituted the Chapter during its experimental career. It was found that the organization would not prosper out of the collegiate sphere, and the effort soon was abandoned. Chapter IV has since been designated Delta Chapter, but to the confusion in nomenclature instead of to the embellishment of the Chapter roll, as was the intention. Chapter V indicated the result of a charter given to Linton N. Buck, of Alpha, for a Chapter at Louisville Seminary. This Chapter was never organized, and its inclusion is fictitious. Likewise, a charter granted in 1873 to Charles D. Hubbard, of Alpha, resulted in the numbering of Chapter VI at Cornell University. But no initiations were made, and another fallacy developed.



EUGENE H. CROWDUS
Commander of Alpha, 1880-81, whose efforts toward extension won him the name "The First Expansionist."

Charters for chapters at Carson College and at Valparaiso University did not even reach the recognition of being numbered, and a charter for Yale in this same era amounted only to forlorn hope. Chapter VII resulted from a charter given in 1873 to James Bonham, of Alpha, for a Chapter at the University of Georgia, where Bonham was then a prominent professor. Four initiations are said to have been made when the chancellor ruled against further activity, and the effort collapsed in its first year. This grant was later designated as Mu Chapter, but in location only it is related to the actual establishment of a Chapter at the University of Georgia. This array of Roman numerals probably served to hearten early members of Alpha with the belief that Sigma Nu had expanded. But the results were visionary so far as records remain to indicate.

The first collegiate charter that really became operative was given to Oscar E. Smith, of Alpha, for the establishment of a Chapter at the University of Alabama. This charter became effective in 1874 with the founding of Chapter VIII, later known as Theta. Great interest was manifested by its members. Regular meetings were held, and initiations were conducted during the period from its beginning until commencement week in the spring of 1877. At that time, antifraternity laws were imposed, forcing the Chapter into *sub rosa* existence. During the next college year, members of this Chapter exercised their constitutional right by establishing Chapter IX at Howard College, then located

at Marion, Alabama. The faculty there was bitterly opposed to fraternities and Chapter IX, later called Iota, had existed only in a *sub rosa* state when severe regulations entirely suspended its operation.

Thus it was that the rim of the Blue Ridge and the connecting contour of the towering Alleghenies circumscribed the sphere of Sigma Nu's collegiate activity when, in the fall of 1880, Eugene Crowdus became Commander of Alpha Chapter. To one of his power and vision and courage, such confines challenged inherent ability instead of restricting his realm of influence, and Crowdus determined to extend the Fraternity to new and permanent locations that it might have the impelling motives and the sustaining inspiration of a national organization. His first care, however, was for the welfare of Chapter I. Five new men were selected for membership. Outstanding in this group were Robert Lee Poage, of Wytheville, Virginia, and Philip E. Yeatman, of Norfolk, both of whom rose to rank of lieutenant in the Corps. Robert W. McDonald, William H. Miller and James Barbour, the others initiated in the fall of 1880, were not graduated. Yeatman entered as a thirdclassman. By virtue of this advanced standing, and because of his exceptional talents and innate enthusiasm. Commander Crowdus selected Yeatman as his amanuensis for the work of extension.

For several years, Regent Riley had been isolated on civil engineering expeditions, and was completely out of touch with the Fraternity. His re-election to a second five-year term was complimentary, yet perfunctory, since failure to establish permanent Chapters had left the regency a nominal office. In reality, the Commander of Chapter I was acting Regent, and with such understanding Eugene Crowdus proceeded in his determination to extend the Fraternity. To all purposes, Yeatman acted as a General Secretary in this effort, although there was not then provision for such an official.



PHILIP E. YEATMAN
Acting General Secretary of the Fraternity in its first effective effort toward expansion.

Commander Crowdus was a firstclassman with much influence, and his requests were received with unusual deference. He secured for Yeatman special privileges after lights-out had been signaled, and at late hours they wrote letters and worked out plans for developing new fields for activity. There is scant record of the course of their prospecting endeavors, but bits of correspondence preserved indicate that their efforts were persistent and exhaustive. Every possible source of co-operation seems to have been included, members having been called upon to furnish names of worthy friends in colleges where fraternities



MILL DAM OF A GOLD MINE NEAR DAHLONEGA, GA.

were permitted. But the barren results of former charter grants were greatly against success. It was not until spring, a few months before Crowdus was graduated, that his indefatigable efforts resulted in the founding of a new Chapter, inaugurating actual and permanent expansion of the Fraternity.

Nestled down in the foot-hills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Georgia, in isolation not unlike that of Lexington, Virginia, the little town of Dahlonega had relapsed into a peaceful and contented community after strife for possession of its foundations of gold had ceased. This section, known as the Cherokee Belt, was so named for the Indians of that tribe, who inhabited that region when gold was discovered there about 1830. The name Dahlonega is of Indian origin, meaning "yellow money". Gold was found so plentifully in the alluvial deposits that the Government established a Mint at Dahlonega. Thousands went to that region to work the mines and to wash the gravel in the valleys for gold. Northern and eastern interests obtained valuable holdings, and the influx of population was cosmopolitan.

Dahlonega is beautifully situated among lofty, wooded hills, which merge into the main range of the encircling Blue Ridge Mountains. It is over twenty-two hundred feet above sea level, with wonderful climate and with water that is celebrated for its sparkling purity. When the California discovery lured away many who found only gold in these hills, others were influenced to remain at Dahlonega where their aesthetic instincts were satisfied.

After this exodus to the West, mining in North Georgia for some time was limited, and the Mint established there ceased to be operated. Immediately after the close of the Civil War, Colonel William T. Price, a prominent lawyer of that section, was elected to Congress, and obtained an act conveying the Mint building and ten acres of ground to the State of Georgia for a college. The grant was made under the Act of Congress in 1862, contemplating the endowment and support of at least one college in every state where the leading



CANE CREEK FALLS, NEAR DAHLONEGA, GA.

object should be the teaching of branches of agriculture and mechanic arts, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and where military training also was to be provided.

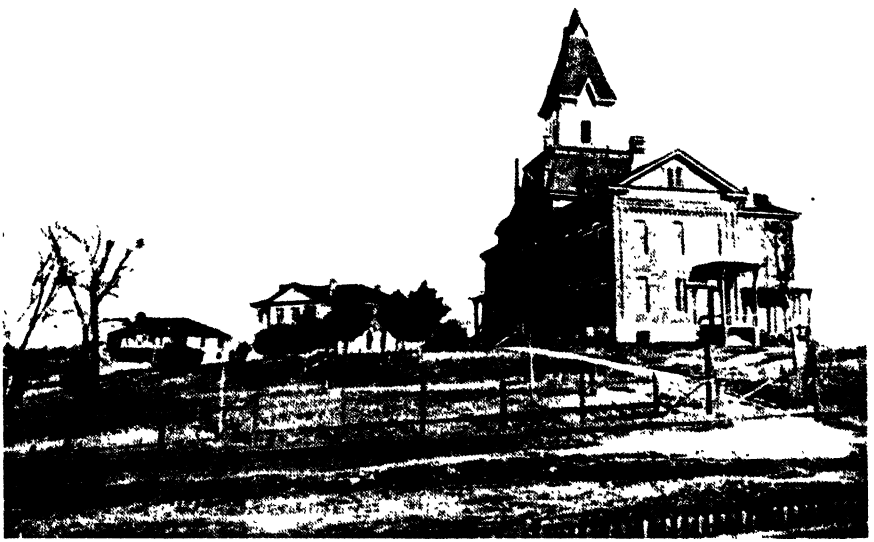
This resulted in the establishment of North Georgia Agricultural College, opened on the 6th of January, 1873, with a total of two hundred and nine students. One hundred and twenty-one of these were male matriculates, who were organized into military companies under Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Garrard, a graduate of West Point delegated by the Government to inaugurate the department of military tactics in the new college. Under his able direction, this feature at once became popular, and placed the North Georgia College prominently among the many State institutions then offering military training.

The location of Dahlonega, which was twenty-six miles from a railroad at that time, made it ideal for student life, free from distracting and undesirable influences, and blessed with climate and environment both healthful and inspiring. The same isolated situation, on the other hand, created the need for closer fellowship, and almost with the beginning of the College a secret society called the Young Philistines was organized. Their association was not in imitation of Greek-letter fraternities, for very little was known there of such organizations. But they were prompted by the same desire of youth for companionship, and for the charm of secrecy and mystery.

The ways of the Young Philistines were unique and original. No officers were elected, but at each meeting designated functions were performed by members determined by the order of their arrival at the secret meeting place, it being a rule that approach was only to be made singly. The method of balloting for new members was for each to draw from a box containing one white pea for each member present, and one odd black pea. If the black pea was drawn, the candidate was forever rejected. Chance caused the rejection of every name thus voted upon, and the society became extinct when the last member was graduated in 1879. Its influence survived, however, and mani-

fested itself in the popular aims of a Greek-letter fraternity. The establishment of a Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at North Georgia College in 1879 also incited local ambition to broader associations.

In the fall of 1880, a group including an enthusiastic alumnus of the defunct Young Philistines was formed with the intention of securing a charter from a



NORTH GEORGIA COLLEGE IN 1881
Kappa Chapter established here was a pivotal factor in revival activities of that period.

national fraternity. At that time, Sigma Chi was very active in the South. An inquiry, dated December 11, 1880, was addressed to the Chapter of Sigma Chi at Dickinson College, and the reply, dated January 4, 1881, assured the Dahlonega local of that Chapter's co-operation, and suggested that the Chapter of Sigma Chi at Marion, Alabama, would help them in getting started. The prospective petitioners were advised to write to the Grand Chapter of Sigma Chi at Ohio Wesleyan University in regard to the petition. Thereupon a petition was sent to the Grand Chapter of Sigma Chi, bringing in reply a letter stating that the petition would be submitted to the Chapters of that fraternity. But before the result became known, the petitioning group received a letter that altered its course.

Influential in the organization of the Dahlonega petitioners was one W. O. Childress, then first captain of the Corps of Cadets. This circumstance was made known to Commander Crowdus, of Chapter I, by a non-fraternity acquaintance from Georgia. Crowdus, also a captain, was quick to take advantage of this mutual military prestige, and dispatched at once the following letter:

Lexington, Va., Feb. 4, 1881.

Captain W. O. Childress,
Dahlonega, Ga.
Dear Sir:

Upon very high recommendation, I write to enquire whether or not you and your friends would like to establish a Chapter of the Sigma Nu Fraternity in your College. This Fraternity is very strong in your State (Alabama), having two very large Chapters there, one at the University and the other at Marion. If this should meet with your approbation, please let me know as soon as possible and I will send you the oath of secrecy to sign, together with all the papers and information for establishing a Chapter. If on the other hand you do not desire to enter upon this, you will please mention the subject to some of your friends, and by so doing oblige,

Yours,
E. H. CROWDUS.

Whether it was ignorance, optimism or desperation that led Commander Crowdus to such boast of the two Alabama Chapters is conjectural; but of the force and effect of his assertions there is no doubt. The military mutuality between Captain Crowdus and Captain Childress created an influence which at once became dominating in the desires of the Dahlonega local, altering its plans as the following letter indicates:

Dahlonega, Ga., February 23, 1881.

Captain E. H. Crowdus,
Lexington, Va.
Dear Sir:

Please pardon the delay with which I have replied to your favor of the 4th. I have spoken to my friends concerning the establishment of a Chapter of the Sigma Nu Fraternity in our College. It meets with their approval and mine, and if you still desire it, you may mail me the oath, information, etc., at your earliest convenience. Thanking you for the favor which you have conferred upon me, I am

Yours very truly,
W. O. CHILDRESS.

What a thrill of delight and pride must have come to Commander Crowdus when he realized his long-cherished hope! After six months of patient and persistent effort, his recompense had come. But the result was not consummated without further demonstration of his determined nature. His proposal to send the secret work to Dahlonega by mail met with considerable opposition in Chapter I, those objecting believing it too much risk as well as a violation of the Constitution to transmit the secrets in writing. Crowdus contended that the emergency justified the exception, and with characteristic persistence he won his point. Far-sighted as he was, Crowdus knew that the founding of Chapter X meant not merely a single addition, but an opportunity to radiate the results of his work through multiple channels. Only four months remained

Dahlonega, Ga.
Feb. 23/97

Capt. E. H. Crowdus.

Dear Sir.

Please pardon the delay with which I have replied to your favor of the 4th. I have spoken to my friends concerning the establishment of a Chapter of the Sigma Nu Fraternity in our College. It meets with their approval and mine, and if you still desire it you may mail me the oath, information, &c at your earliest convenience. Thanking you for the favor which you have conferred

I am

Yours, very
W. O. Childress

KAPPA CHAPTER'S ACCEPTANCE
Letter from William O. Childress to Commander Crowdus accepting proffer of a Sigma Nu Charter.

before he was to be graduated, and he lost no time in trying to imbue Chapter X with the spirit of expansion. As soon as he received acknowledgment of receipt of the secret work and of the badges which Chapter I had loaned to Chapter X, Crowdus wrote to Childress:

"Yours of the 20th received yesterday. We are glad to know that you are pleased with the Constitution and badges. I think it is the prettiest badge I ever saw, but perhaps I am prejudiced. Have you initiated any members since the receipt of the Constitution? I want the roll of your Chapter about May 1st. Initiate as many *good* men as possible by that time.

"In regard to the establishment of Chapters, I think Mercer University at Macon, Georgia, a good place. J. D. Dickson, Chapter IX, Howard College, Marion, Alabama, says that he has several friends at the University of Georgia, and intends writing to them in regard to establishment of a Chapter at that place, but if you know any good men there, write to them on the subject, or you can write to Dickson and discuss plans with him. If you know any good men in any colleges in other states, try to see what can be done in that direction. We wish to establish Chapters as soon as possible so that we may be able to enter them in the catalogue. If you succeed in establishing any soon, you can send the badges you have to them. Will send the charter as soon as the necessary parties sign it. In absence of a charter, don't hesitate to send Constitution, etc., to any place that you have succeeded in introducing the Sigma Nu. I will obtain the charter necessary for those out of the State after the sending of the Constitution.

"Fellows send regards to X."

Chapter X quickly caught the spirit of its founder, and within a few weeks its members were in correspondence concerning new Chapters at several locations. Commencement came before any results materialized. But the inspiration was abiding, and the next year Chapter X pursued the effort under most trying circumstances.

Extension of the Fraternity was not the sole ambition that Eugene Crowdus had for Sigma Nu, nor was such effort the limit of his endeavors in trying to develop the strength and unity of a national organization. A catalogue of members and Chapters was a determination to which he devoted much time and thought during his year of leadership. The extent and earnestness of this ambition leads one to believe that Commander Crowdus did not realize the all but hopeless situation from which he saved the Fraternity. A catalogue of Chapters at that period would have been principally necrology. The careless and disorganized method of granting charters without following up contact and recording initiates made the success of a catalogue of members seemingly incomprehensible. Nevertheless, Commander Crowdus and "Phil" Yeatman, his faithful assistant, worked up the project to the point of seeking financial contributions and taking orders for the publication. Difficulties were insurmountable, although probably not then realized, and Commander Crowdus completed his year of great service with confidence in the success of this project as genuine as had been his faith in the extension movement. His zeal was so

V.M.I.

March 24th 21

Capt W O. Childress

Dear Sir

Yours of 20th received Saturday. We are glad to know that you are pleased with the constitution + badges. I think it is the prettiest badge I ever saw but perhaps I am prejudiced. "Our boys" at the Univ of Ala have taken with a rousewille the faculty. As I suppose you know fraternities are not allowed there + they have to be very secret in their working. Will send the charters as soon as the necessary parties sign it, In absence of a charter dont hesitate to send constitutions to any place that you have succeeded in introducing the K σ, I will obtain the charters necessary for those out of the state (2a) after the sending of the constitutions, And Mystic of the Knows Rush Brown of Millledgeville, Hoping to hear from you very soon I remain yours in Σ σ

C A Crowdus

P.S. Fellows and regards to X

AS THE FIRST EXPANSIONIST WROTE

Letter from Commander Crowdus, of Alpha, to William O. Childress, Kappa No. 1.

fervent, his courage so dauntless, that he would hardly have recognized failure if it faced him. Hence it is doubtful whether he contemplated the perplexities that were to embarrass his successor.

The passing of such a forceful character from a group so inexperienced in problems of an expanding organization was a source of real concern to the members of Alpha Chapter after Eugene Crowdus was graduated. The catalogue work and continuance of extension effort were responsibilities that the new Commander of Chapter I had to assume, and election to the office was not the usual procedure of selecting a firstclassman whose acceptance of the honor would be taken for granted. Thomas J. Charlton was the logical senior to succeed Crowdus. He had ability, understanding and great love for and interest in the Fraternity. He evidenced all this by declining the office of Commander, knowing that there was one man in the Chapter who was peculiarly fitted with talents and tact to meet impending demands.



PHILIP G. OMOHUNDRO
Eminent Commander of Alpha, 1881-82, upon whom devolved serious responsibilities of that important period.

The members of Chapter I seemed to sense the fact that the achievements of the previous year, although actual and vital, would be in vain without leadership that would measure up to the mark that Crowdus had made. Philip Grymes Omohundro was their unanimous choice for Commander. "P. G.", as he was called, was only in his third year, but firstclassmen joined earnestly in the desire to have him take the Commandership. He had many of the qualifications of Crowdus, but they were modified or controlled by attributes that made him better fitted for this second year of the regeneration period than his predecessor would have been. Crowdus was far-sighted—so much so that he was inclined to overlook exigent situations and imminent difficulties. In a sense, he was too advanced in his ambitions for Sigma Nu, and the structure he had begun was upon insecure foundations.

Commander Omohundro had vision without being visionary. He had as much faith in the future of the Fraternity as Crowdus had, but more regard for pressing realities. Crowdus had started his catalogue project when there were but one hundred and fifty-two known members of Sigma Nu, all but thirty-three of whom were on the roll of Chapter I. He collected money for the catalogue from Chapter VIII before that Chapter passed into *sub rosa* ob-



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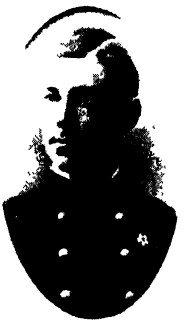
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8

INITIATED INTO ALPHA NEAR THE CLOSE OF SIGMA NU'S FIRST DECADE

1, Alexander B. B. Harris; 2, Thomas J. Charlton; 3, Philip G. Omohundro; 4, Horace P. Bougere; 5, Philip E. Yeatman; 6, Frank M. Zeigler; 7, Robert L. Poage; 8, William H. Miller.

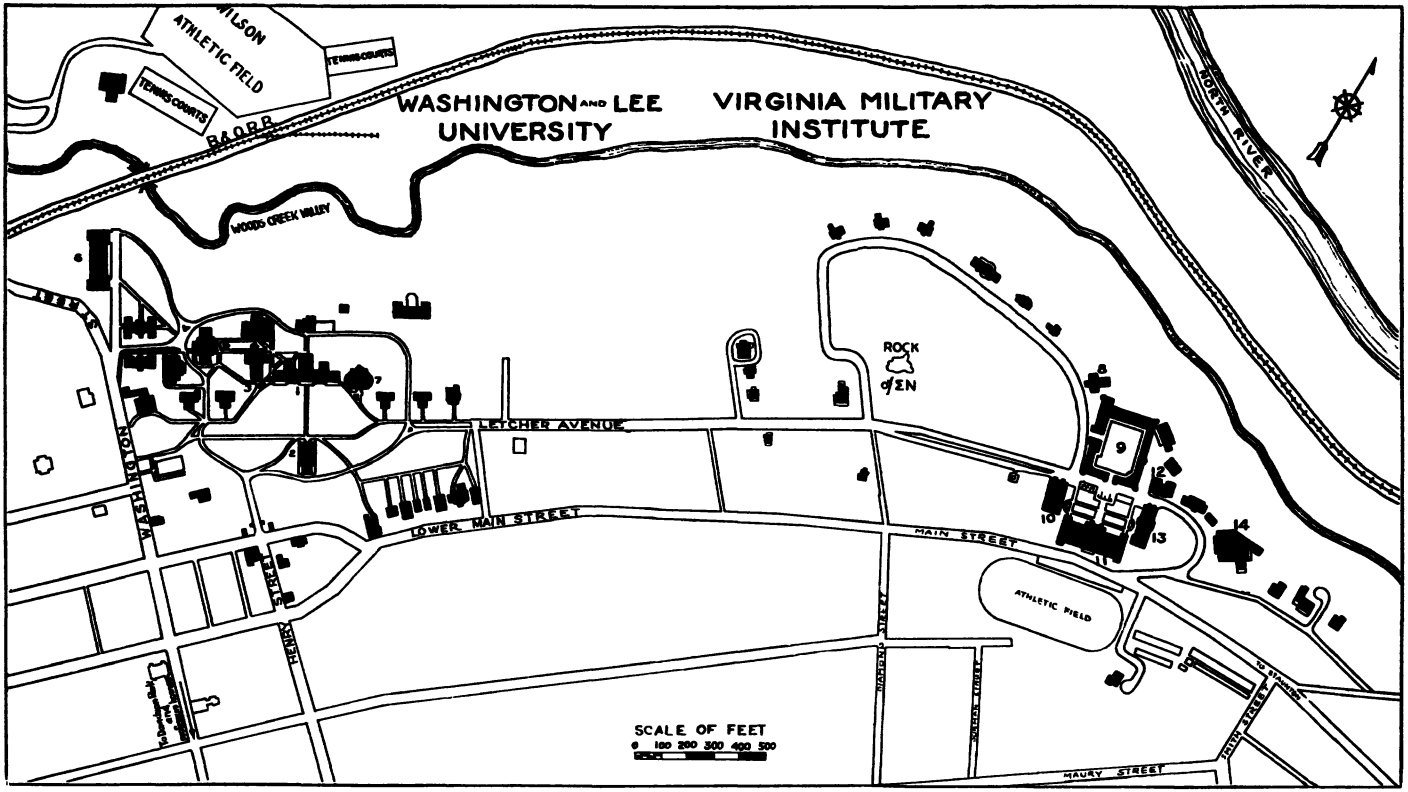
security, and from Chapter X as soon as it was organized. It fell to his successor to face the actualities that had been ignored or overlooked. Consequences of inflated prosperity and of premature designs developed in the fall of 1881, but did not become critical until later that year.

A fortunate condition prevailed in Chapter I during the college year 1881-82, contributing to stabilization through the revolution of disorganized methods that had been greatly responsible for shortcomings of the first decade. Philip E. Yeatman, versatile, methodical, resourceful "Phil" Yeatman, was elected Scribe, augmenting Omohundro's unusual administrative ability. Yeatman had served as an unofficial secretary under Crowdus the previous year, when the duly elected Scribe did not measure up to extended responsibilities. This experience familiarized him with the demands and opportunities of the service, and with willing spirit and exceptional enthusiasm he accepted the duties a second year, thus assuring Commander Omohundro constant and efficient co-operation.

The two "Phils" were devoted companions. Their relationship was an example of ideal fraternalism. They had much in common besides their zeal and willingness for service in Sigma Nu. Their talents harmonized effectively, each having fluent power of speech and a facile pen. They were in the same class, and their military rank paralleled their chapter relationship, Omohundro becoming a captain and Yeatman a lieutenant. Socially, they were in highest favor, no others among the cadets being more esteemed and admired. This connaturality not only produced teamwork in administrative affairs, but it strengthened the prestige of Chapter I to have such upstanding favorites for leaders. A characterization of Yeatman, written by Omohundro after more than forty years of separation, is rich in the essence of feeling which bound these two Brothers in their service for Sigma Nu:

"Philip Edward Yeatman was a cavalier by right of descent—a poet, an orator, a linguist, and a charmer (of both sexes), because of the happy distribution of his various accomplishments. Popularity and Yeatman were synonymous terms. The most aggravating bore was received with a suavity that made the wretch think he was really entertaining. 'Make every one happy,' was one of Yeatman's undeclared mottoes, and no one came so near fulfilling his mission. Having a supreme contempt for snobbery in all guises, he had a better excuse for practicing it than most fellows. An entertainer *par excellence,* equally comfortable among wits or sages, he had no peer when the hour or opportunity came for whispering sweet little nothings into the listening ear of any of the fair and gentle sex. The darkest day of winter weather failed to dampen his ever-flowing gayety. He walked, as it were, in a garden of roses, and steadfastly refused to notice the weeds, the thistles or thorns therein. Life was to him a great and supreme joy—the world as beautiful as a poet's dream of love.

"Yeatman possessed sterner qualities of character than one might infer from his portrait so far, but so imperfectly drawn. He was as brave, as true and as valiant a Knight as ever wore badge of this or any order. His eloquence in councils swayed far more than was then apparent the destinies of the Sigma Nu, while his pen reached far with the noblest sentiments in the cause of his Fraternity. He was the Patrick Henry-Thomas Jefferson in the Renaissance of



GROUND PLAN OF ADJOINING CAMPUSES

Letcher Avenue passing through Washington and Lee University campus is the main approach to Virginia Military Institute. No buildings were near the Rock of Sigma Nu at the time the Founders met there to inaugurate the Legion of Honor. V. M. I. buildings—8, Library; 9, Barracks; 10, Jackson Memorial Hall; 11, Gymnasium; 12, Maury-Brooke Hall; 13, Scott Shipp Memorial Hall; 14, Mess Hall. W. and L. buildings—1, Washington College; 2, Lee Chapel; 3, Newcomb Hall; 4, Reid Hall; 5, Carnegie Library; 6, Gymnasium; 7, Tucker Hall.

Sigma Nu. Dear old chum of my cadet days! If I had my way, I would write your name high up on the roll of Sigma Nu's Immortals—even as it is so written, first, on the tablet of my heart. How sweet is memory when dwelling on that which is Good, and True, and Honorable."

Social life at Lexington, Virginia, had expanded with the broadening influences of rehabilitation, and the cadets formed the axis of activity among the younger element. Locally, fraternity leadership was measured by a social standard, and with the popular pair reflecting its standing, Sigma Nu admittedly commanded first place. The advantage was influential in obtaining new members, and six additions were won out of the limited number available to sustain seven fraternities. Four of these new members became conspicuous for their achievements in scholastic, military and social affairs. Samuel Vance Fulkerson became first lieutenant of Company A in his senior year, and led the final German. Alexander H. Fitzgerald became adjutant of the Corps, and was a favorite of faculty members and cadets. John R. Doles also reached the rank of adjutant, was president of the Dialectic Literary Society, and won second honors in scholarship. John L. Boush was graduated fifth in scholarship in the class of 1885. John F. Walker, another initiate of the year 1881-82, did not complete his course at V. M. I. The acquisition of six new members at this period, when rivals were struggling and fraternity opposition was growing, should be interpreted as tribute to the two leaders of the Chapter. One of the fraternities had but a single member at V. M. I. that year, and the Mother Chapter of Alpha Tau Omega ceased existence entirely.

Disfavor of fraternities that reached menacing proportions at V. M. I. about that time was intensified as a result of bitter antagonism between cadets and Washington and Lee students. Their relationship, which never had been overcordial, had become war-like after an athletic breach. On at least one occasion long roll was sounded calling the Corps to arms, and with bayonets they charged the University students who withdrew after delivering a fusillade of bricks and stones. Retaliatory acts under cover of darkness caused serious damage at both institutions. The worst offense was the blowing up of a battery of priceless guns, brass pieces called "Napoleons", which cadets used only in drills. The cannons were parked in front of barracks, and aside from damage done to them, windows were shattered and other destruction was caused by the force of the concussion. Evidence was discovered which implicated University students, and a settlement for damage was effected between the institutions.

This did not satisfy the honor of the cadets, however, and a clandestine organization called the "Molly Maguires" plotted revenge. A railroad was being built in the vicinity, and stores of blasting powder and fuses were appropriated by the plotters for a demonstration at the University one night, when a valley fog obscured their movements. The bulk of the powder was planted in a keg in the center of a conspicuous area of the Washington and Lee campus, with fuse arranged so it would be ignited from a huge bonfire built above the buried powder. The campus was lighted by gas lamps, and bottles filled with powder

and with fuses attached were fastened to these lamps. The corporal of the guard was sightless during this activity, and apparently did not observe the departure and the return to barracks of the plotters.

The cadets constituted a fire brigade at that period, with man-power pumps a part of their equipment. At an appointed hour the bonfire was lighted. Immediately the Corporal's vision returned, and the conflagration was discovered. Long roll was sounded and the cadets rushed to ranks. Warning was whispered along the lines, and upon reaching the scene and finding only a huge bonfire, the cadet fire-brigade formed a line to keep the gathering crowd back from imminent danger about which they alone knew. Certain ones had been appointed to light the fuses of the smaller charges when the main explosion occurred. The big blast was followed by these minor explosions that put out all campus lights and gave the effect of a general bombardment from all sides. The principal damage was a huge hole in the University campus. Long after this was filled up, the spot was bare and yellow from impregnation of powder ingredients, an eye-sore to the University students, but a source of lingering elation to cadets, whose right of way to the Institute grounds crossed the Washington and Lee campus. Fraternities were not responsible for the formation or for the activities of the "Molly Maguires", whose personnel was secret. But the Greek-letter societies were the only tangible secret organizations to assail, and they suffered accordingly.

This opposition complicated the administration of Commander Omohundro, and developed such ominous forebodings that he and Yeatman applied themselves diligently to preparing for threatening eventualities. Yet this was not the most pressing problem that confronted them. Warnings from Chapter X at North Georgia College were received indicating even more serious consequences of difficulties, which the two energetic officers of Chapter I were striving to overcome. The courage and optimism of Crowdus were sufficient to counteract and to conceal deficiencies of the Fraternity for a time; but it was left to Commander Omohundro to produce positive results. Promises were no longer sustaining to the spirit that prompted the fraternal instincts of Chapter X. The morale of its members had waned; their faith had withered; and the cord that bound together the two living Chapters of Sigma Nu was all but broken.

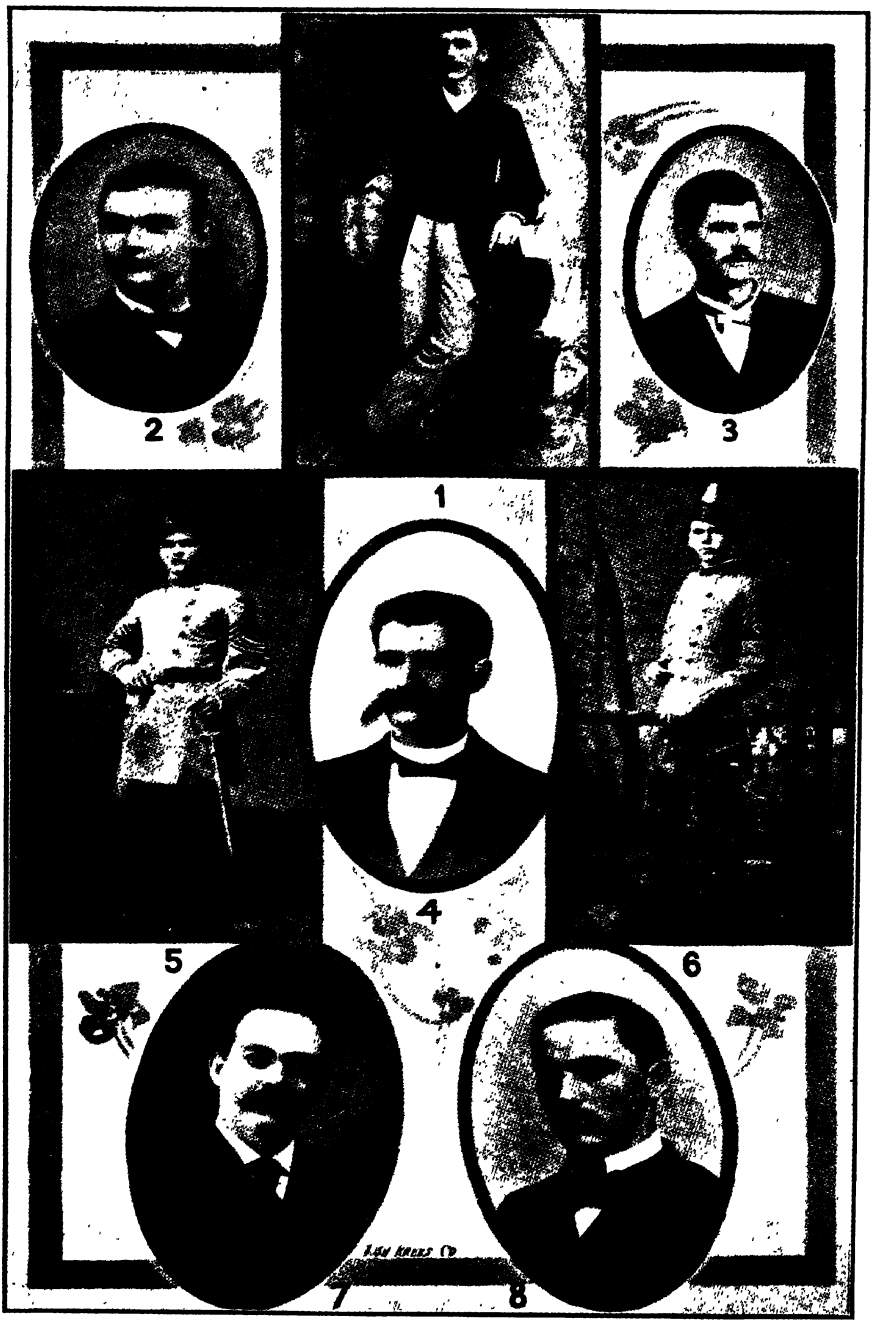
CHAPTER VIII

The Tribulations of Ten

THE motive that animated the charter members of Chapter X at North Georgia College was more than a transitory ambition of college boys to belong to a national Greek-letter fraternity. It was the essence of a virile, compelling, abiding instinct that had asserted itself in friendships of early youth, and which survived in the matured associations of young manhood. The germ of this persisting fraternal spirit was a dominating element in the soul-composite of one John Alexander Howard, born at Dahlonega, Georgia, November 16, 1857, the son of Nicholas Fergerson Howard and Alemeda Awtry. He was educated in the public schools of Dahlonega, and entered North Georgia College in 1873.

John Howard was not a serious student, but he was an earnest and enthusiastic collegian, devoted and loyal to his Alma Mater. He was a peculiar genius in whom personal ambition was wanting, but whose heart and mind ever were inclined in behalf of some object of his enduring affection. He had peculiar fascination for the workings of college Greek-letter fraternities, expression of such fondness having been manifested before he became familiar with these organizations. The "Young Philistines", the first secret society at this isolated institution, was not imitation, but was the invention of Howard's creative intellect. When this society became extinct after his graduation in 1878, John Howard's faculty for fraternalism remained regnant. The establishment of a Chapter of a national fraternity at the College decided him to renew his connection with such collegiate associations, and he conceived the plan of petitioning for a charter from another Greek-letter order.

After completing his college course, Howard had entered the newspaper profession, having become associate editor of the Dahlonega *Signal*. In this connection he also published the college paper, *The Students' Herald*, and through exchanges became familiar with the activities of fraternities at other institutions. In the meantime, the old Mint building, the sole shelter of the College, had burned. It was three years before a new building was erected; but the loyalty of most of the students was steadfast, and sessions never were suspended. Classes were conducted in the Court House, at the Baptist Church, and in an old public school house known as the "Old Academy Building". Students roomed in private homes, and this fraternizing of college and community population created intimate relationships between collegians and townspeople. John Howard was constantly in touch with affairs of the College, and knew most of the students personally.

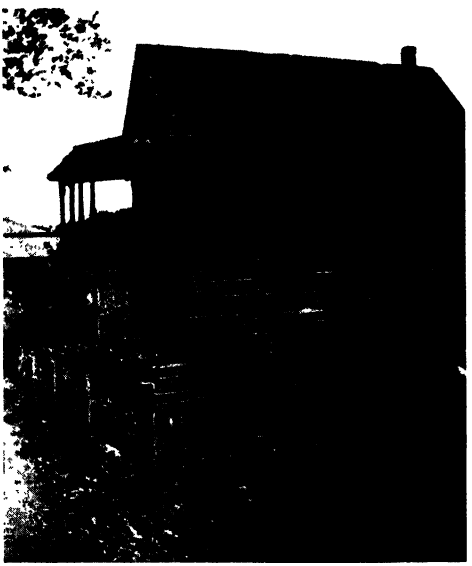


CHARTER MEMBERS OF CHAPTER X, KAPPA CHAPTER

1, William O. Childress; 2, Grant H. Frey; 3, Calvin Henderson; 4, John Alexander Howard; 5, William S. Myrick; 6, George M. Napier; 7, Micollius N. Stow; 8, John T. Williams.

Among his intimates was William Oliver Childress, a town boy whose home was formerly in Alabama. Childress was essentially a military man, in 1879 having won the gold medal for being the best drilled cadet. Howard had received this distinction the previous year, and through this circumstance their friendship was strengthened. While still an underclassman, Childress was made first captain, this exception to the rule being a recognition of his military proficiency. The same year, Micollius Norman Stow was made first lieutenant. Stow was more earnest in scholastic effort than Howard or Childress. He achieved success in military training as well, winning the first drill medal in his senior year. He also was a Dahlonega boy, a chum of John Howard, and hence was among the first to share the idea of fraternity affiliation. This trio was the nucleus of the aspiring group to which Commander Crowdus directed the invitation to join Sigma Nu. The military influence in the negotiations is here made more apparent.

Four non-resident students were taken into the organization before the acceptance of the proffered charter. Grant Hamilton Frey was the first of these to be invited. His inclination was also strongly military, and he became first lieutenant of cadets. Calvin Henderson, next in order of admission, was the Puritan of the group. His gentle nature, his scrupulous conduct, his devout Christian character left their impress on those who knew him and loved him. William S. Myrick was a popular fellow who rose to the rank of first lieutenant. George M. Napier was the scholastic leader of the group. He won the debater's medal, and was active in literary society affairs. John T. Williams, completing the original roll, was a studious, serious-minded youth, who reflected the high moral standard of this association to which he attached himself. These were the eight self-initiated members, who signed the oath of secrecy on March 11, 1881, and became the Charter Members of Chapter X.



WHERE CHAPTER X, KAPPA, WAS INSTALLED
In the half-story attic of this building, the charter members of Chapter X, Kappa Chapter, pledged allegiance to Sigma Nu.

This unique ceremony took place in the half-story attic of a building belonging to John Howard's father, a small wooden structure that stood near the end of a foot-bridge on the way between the Court House and the College. The Ritual and the Constitution, which had been sent through the mail by Com-

mander Crowdus, were read with solemn reverence, and no initiates ever were more earnest and sincere in acceptance of vows than were those charter members of Chapter X. They imbibed the spirit of Crowdus along with the precepts of the secret work he sent, and began at once to try to extend the Order. Within two months after the founding, members of Chapter X were in communication with prospects in Ohio, Kentucky, Alabama and Georgia. But it was too near commencement time to get results that college year. The chapter roll was increased to twenty before finals, and plans for the next year were made with great optimism.

"You may rest assured that Sigma Nu will be flourishing in Georgia before Christmas," Childress wrote to Crowdus.

"When do you think you can send our charter?" was the postscript inquiry repeated from previous communications.

In the fall of 1881, Chapter X began its first full college year with great promise and with enthusiastic purpose. Six members were seniors prominent in various activities. Not all the initiates of the previous year returned, but during the year eleven new members were acquired. Local triumphs were not the sustaining ambition of Chapter X, however, and shadows of doubt and discouragement began to darken their way when they realized the actual status of the Fraternity. Indication of this situation was transmitted to Commander Omohundro from time to time along with repeated requests for the long-awaited charter. Omohundro and Yeatman were doing their best to bring order out of complicated difficulties, and they endeavored to hold Chapter X in harmony until this was accomplished; but in vain. Instead of "flourishing in Georgia by Christmas," as Childress had predicted, their faith had vanished and their spirit was broken. The result and contributing causes are clearly set forth in the following ultimatum sent by the Scribe of Chapter X to the Mother Chapter:

Dahlonega, Ga., Feb. 13, '82.

Mr. P. G. Omohundro,
Commander, Chapter I, Sigma Nu,
V. M. Institute, Lexington, Va.

Dear Sir:

At the last meeting of Chapter X, our condition and standing was thoroughly discussed, and by special order I am to write the result. Our Chapter is on the verge of disunion. Not that we have not members to sustain it, for we hold the cream of all, by the voice of outsiders. But when we reflect—being organized one year, paying out money, receiving *nothing*—we have justly come to the conclusion that such things cannot longer exist. We must either receive our charter immediately or disband and cease to press *gentlemen* into a service where they cannot enjoy their *rights* or receive any *benefit*.

We do, gentlemen, sincerely hope that we may receive our charter *immediately*. For our prospects are most promising, several good chapters are in our grasp, but, sir, we consider the *honor* of X, and will not *impose* upon others. But at present we are powerless to perform any service for Sigma Nu. We are tied hand and foot, and feel keenly our position.

Our Chapter is unanimously in favor of postponing the publication of the catalogue until we can count more Chapters and make a better appearance. We hope Chapter I may come to the same conclusion. If you *do*, we are willing to advance $10.00 for a steel cut, and the balance, $11.85, you can invest for us in letter head paper, envelopes and visiting cards (blank) with Chapter X on it. This permission is given only that the publication of the catalogue is postponed.

Compliments of Chapter X to I, asking for an immediate reply.

Very truly in Bonds,
Your Brother,
G. H. FREY, Grand Scribe,
Sigma Nu, Chapter X.

The failure of Eugene Crowdus to respond to the repeated request of Chapter X for its charter was neither oversight nor neglect. Had he informed Chapter X of the facts in the case, the disorganized state of affairs of the Fraternity would have been revealed. If Crowdus had made an attempt to communicate with the Regent to obtain his signature upon a charter, it probably would have been in vain. It is doubtful whether he considered or cared if this was essential. The importance of a formal charter was likely of little consequence to Crowdus under the circumstances. Heroic action was necessary, and emergency procedure seemed warranted. But the finality of Frey's letter left no such arbitrary action optional with Omohundro. The following response of Alpha's Commander to the ultimatum of Chapter X is one of the most masterful epistles in the possession of the Fraternity:

From Chapter I to Chapter X, Greeting.
Dear Brothers in Sigma Nu:

At our last meeting, subjects which concern deeply the welfare of our Brotherhood were brought forward and discussed. We look back upon the last five or six years, and find to our sorrow that we have been almost totally inactive. We have seen other fraternities, older it is true, but nevertheless not more numerous than we were, striding onward, establishing chapters, building up a name, planting their offshoots in the principal colleges of the north, east, south and west, while we, seemingly content that we should exist, have remained in comparative inactivity. If there will ever be a time for us to begin to move and to shake off our sloth, it is *now*.

We must take a fresh start, and apply ourselves diligently, each and every man, to the advancement of our beloved Fraternity. We must throw heart and soul into the work, and work we *must*. or she will die! If you but ponder deeply upon this matter, you will find yourselves acknowledging the truth of this assertion. You are the only Chapter of the Fraternity now in active operation besides our own. All the others have become extinct, either from neglect and lack of interest on the part of their members, or from opposition on the part of college authorities.

We have had, altogether, ten Chapters at different colleges throughout the South. Chapter I was founded at this college in 1869. It has a roll of one hundred and nineteen members, some of whom are now dead, and others have been lost sight of. Chapter II was founded at the University of Virginia in '70. The records are lost and the Chapter dead. Chapter III was founded at Asheville, N. C., in '71 with two charter members. Records lost, Chapter dead. The localities and records of Chapters V, VI and VII are lost—all dead. Chapter VIII was founded at Tuscaloosa, Ala., in '74, with five charter members and seventeen initiates. As nothing has been heard from this Chapter for three or four years, we must conclude that it is also dead. Chapter IX was founded at Howard College, Marion, Ala., in '79, with six charter members and five initiates. It has discontinued on account of suppression of secret fraternities at that college. Chapter X, your own, was founded at Dahlonega, Ga., in '81, with eight charter members and eighteen initiates, and is now the only Chapter left us, besides this, the Mother Chapter.

We now appeal to you, as the only Chapter which has taken due interest in our Brotherhood, to unite with us, and give us your hearty co-operation in the work we shall now attempt—that of rebuilding from its very foundation the Sigma Nu Fraternity. You have hitherto responded gracefully and dutifully to every demand made upon you in behalf of her—you have done your whole duty toward her. This we must acknowledge; and furthermore, we find upon due reflection that, unintentionally, we have been guilty of neglect toward you, because the true state of affairs was not fully explained to us by our immediate predecessors, nor did we comprehend it until we went to work and found out ourselves. The leading idea of the Chapter here has hitherto been, evidently from its records, that as long as Chapter I was doing well, nothing more was needed for the prosperity and increase of the Fraternity. We now see the utter folly of such an idea. They have judged the size of other fraternities solely by the number of members at this place, regardless of how many chapters they may have elsewhere. Why, the largest fraternity in the U. S. is represented here by *but a single member*, the Chapter having died two years ago. In fact we have the largest Chapter here.

Other Chapters of our Fraternity have been founded at various colleges in the South, but where are they now? We have not even the names of the members of most of them. This came of neglect on the part of predecessors to keep carefully records sent here by other Chapters.

Our Commander of last year when resigning his charge to the incumbent referred him to the letters for information concerning our other Chapters. When looked for, those letters could not be found, and although some of them have since been found, by diligent search, they are devoid of accurate information. This all came about through lack of interest.

Last year the members of Chapter I became suddenly ambitious and without deliberation or forethought started on foot the catalogue scheme. The project was totally unjustified, as you have since seen. They took a few unimportant steps toward the completion of the design, entirely overlooking the ones which should have been made toward the beginning. They plunged into it blindly,

regardless of the fact that the Chapters upon which they relied for support were long since dead. You see the consequences of this blindness. The whole affair, so inopportunely begun, was thrown upon our hands, without the least warning, and without time for preparation. No writings of any kind had been drawn up on the subject, no plan laid out. We had no knowledge of the innermost details, except what we were able to gather at the meetings, and that little was vague and uncertain. We struggled feebly at the first of the year for the cause, but soon perceived how utterly hopeless it was. And so we wisely abandoned it to wait until the size and means of our Fraternity should justify a publication of her proceedings. In this, we were much relieved and consoled by its meeting with your entire approbation.

We must now give up all these schemes, which are undertaken and carried through by larger fraternities, until Sigma Nu can take her place among them, which we honestly believe she is capable of doing ere many years, but only by the earnest efforts of her present active members. Chapter I and Chapter X must cease to live in the relationship in which they have hitherto existed—that of Mother and Daughter—and must take their places side by side as *Brothers*, and strive together, hand in hand, heart to heart, for her welfare, advancement and, as it now seems, for her *life*. We must start afresh, lop off all dead branches, put aside all extravagant schemes, and labor together to make our Fraternity one of honored and far-spread reputation. All dead Chapters must either be erased from the records, or must be planted afresh. Which will be best, we must decide between us. We must obviate certain difficulties in the Constitution, even if we have to remodel the whole affair, which we sincerely hope will not be necessary. Records must be more minute and more carefully preserved, and all names and addresses of initiates must be forwarded to Chapter I.

We will now endeavor to revive Chapter II at the University of Virginia, and also to establish a new Chapter at the Washington and Lee University at this place. It seems strange that this latter attempt had not been made before. This new Chapter, if we succeed in founding it, will be under our very eyes, and it is only just to expect that it will become an ornament to the Fraternity.

The leading members of our Chapter have only one more year of college life to spend here, but we will leave behind us men as capable, if not more so, of carrying on this work of rejuvenation. After we have overcome the difficulty about your charter, you will be invested with full powers to establish Chapters wherever you are able to get a footing—we will supply all the charters needed. We must make a step toward the West. It is a beautiful field for our work, as there are colleges daily springing up there, besides those already established. If you know of any gentleman desirable for a member, who intends going to any western college, let us know immediately—we are looking out for a like opportunity.

Now, dear Brothers, will you join us in this work? It is certainly *not* light, for a new Sigma Nu Temple must be built up from the ruins of the old one—the foundation is yet sound and good. Will you clasp hands with us and

promise to give your hearts and souls together with ours, for the welfare of our beloved Fraternity? If you will do this, of which we have no doubt, our Brotherhood will increase in numbers as in years, only tenfold more rapidly.

Let us hear from you immediately, and give us your plain unvarnished opinion concerning the matters under discussion. We shall anxiously expect your reply, and depend upon its being favorable.

With all love and fellowship,

We remain

Your true Brothers in Sigma Nu,

Members of Chapter I.



PHILIP G. OMOHUNDRO
Commander of Alpha, 1881-82, resourceful leader who conserved and extended the results of the revival period.

What could be written that would give a more accurate and comprehensive conception of Commander Omohundro than is evident in the logic, the sincerity and earnestness, the pathos and the heroic appeal of this magnificent and memorable address?

The results which this communication ultimately secured in the rebuilding of the Fraternity have justly earned for Philip Grymes Omohundro the enduring regard of his brethren and a high place among Sigma Nu Immortals.

No less glory is due the faithful Scribe, Philip Yeatman, who was side by side with Alpha's Commander in counsel and in service. For some time the two had been striving diligently to locate the Regent. At the expiration of Regent Riley's second five-year term, Thomas W. Clark, charter member and actual founder of Chapter VIII at the University of Alabama, had been chosen Regent, and Muscoe L. Spotswood, early member of the Mother Chapter, had been made Vice Regent. This was at the end of the first decade during the period of decline of Chapter I, and about the time the two Alabama Chapters were affected by antifraternity decrees. Hence the office of Regent became of no consequence, and contact with Regent Clark was lost.

In the meantime, Regent Clark had moved from Alabama to Florida, where he expected to continue his profession as a lawyer. Not long afterward, he contracted yellow fever and died in Florida. Unaware of Regent Clark's removal from Alabama, Omohundro persisted in trying to locate him there, and not until reasonably certain of the futility of further effort did he abandon

the quest. Difficulties in the perplexing situation are appealingly stated in a letter from Omohundro to Brownlow F. Lee, an initiate of the previous fall who had succeeded Frey as Scribe of Chapter X.

V. M. Institute,

Mr. B. F. Lee. Kappa, Lexington, Va., May 15, '82.

Dear Bro. in Sigma Nu:

Your kind invitation was received some few days ago and I extend to you the thanks of Chapter I, and congratulate you upon the success of our men at your College. Sometime since I sent an address from Chapter I to Chapter X which I hope you have received ere this, and met with due consideration by each member of X. It will be seen by that address that we now have but two Chapters in operation—the rest having been discontinued from neglect of their charter members or by the abolishment of secret fraternities at those colleges where they were founded. I have written to all the members of the Fraternity who are likely to know anything of Brother Clark, and I have received no definite answer. I have written to the Commander of the Chapter founded by Brother Clark, and if he can give me no information concerning his residence, we propose to elect a new Regent without further delay, and have your charter signed properly. We will have to remodel the numbers of the Chapters and place your Chapter on the roll as Number II.



THOMAS W. CLARK, THETA
Second Regent of Sigma Nu, elected in 1880.

The position I occupy is one not very much to be envied. I almost feel as one in whom all confidence has been lost. I can hardly write without a blush of shame –to your Chapter. I speak for myself as being the head of Chapter I my individual self—the rest of the members cannot feel as badly about this matter as myself. They have not the weight to bear. All rests upon my shoulders. The affairs of the Fraternity, as I have often told you before, were left in a sad state when we came to examine them. Then those Chapters which have been in operation for several years were discontinued from reasons already given. Added to this was the momentous work left upon our shoulders by the members last year, i. e.: the publication of a catalogue. I worked upon this matter—neglecting my studies—until I was compelled to give it up for the present for want of time to devote to such an important work. I feel keenly the disappointment occasioned by this much-to-be-regretted

undertaking, which had been described as a very easy accomplishment, but which proved to be more difficult than they could imagine.

I earnestly hope that your members will bear with me yet a little while longer and if, as I said before, we can hear nothing of Brother Clark in a very short time, we will elect a new Regent and have all things settled. We are now trying to establish a Chapter at Washington and Lee, and also one at Fayette College, Mo., where one of our last year's boys is now going to school. Another of our boys, who left us a short time ago, will be at the University of Virginia next year, and we will try to revive that Chapter.



MUSCOE L. SPOTSWOOD, ALPHA
Sigma Nu's Second Vice Regent who served during the years 1880-82.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience, I am

Yours in Sigma Nu,
P. G. OMOHUNDRO,
Commander I.

It was finally agreed that since communication with the Regent could not be established, the Vice Regent should succeed to the office. Vice Regent Spotswood was notified by Yeatman of this advancement, but he declined to accept, declaring that the office of Regent should be given more extensive effort than he had time to devote to it. Chapter I considered that this left both offices vacant, and thus it became necessary to advise with Chapter X on the selection of new officers.

The stirring appeal that Commander Omohundro sent to Chapter X had revived the spirit of its members, and when they were informed by him that a new Regent was to be elected, they proposed the name of Jacob P. Imboden, a noncollegian who had been initiated that spring. This conflicted with the plans of Chapter I, the sagacious leaders of which were anxious to have an experienced official, one familiar with the Fraternity's problems. The situation was set forth in the following letter written by Yeatman, zealous Scribe of Chapter I:

B. F. Lee, Esq. V. M. I., June 8th, '82.

Dear Bro. in Sigma Nu:

I now write in great haste to inform you as to the steps we have taken in regards to our Regent. When Bro. Clark failed to be discovered by the most diligent search, the office of Regent necessarily devolved upon the Vice Regent as next in rank, until the expiration of the term. Accordingly, I wrote to him, informing him of his succession. In return, I received a very fine letter from

him, assuring us of his appreciation of the honor, but saying that on account of pressing business he was compelled to decline with regret. That being aware of the high responsibility of the charge, and of the numerous duties attending it, he felt that he was not able, although willing, to discharge the obligations. We appreciated his situation fully, and so forwarded our acceptance of his resignation. Consequently, there are now vacant both the offices of Regent and Vice Regent. We have full confidence in the ability of Brother Imboden to discharge the duties of the higher office, but, nevertheless, I know you will join with us in deciding that we need one more experienced in such matters. We have accordingly selected as our candidate for the office Brother W. H. Wade, of Savannah, Ga., who graduated here in '80. He has always shown a lively interest in the welfare of the Fraternity, both as an active member and as a retired one. We have received constant letters from him since his graduation, in all of which he expressed his interest and love for Sigma Nu. In addition to this, he is situated at present in the midst of our most promising field—at Savannah, Ga., as a practicing lawyer.

We also elected Brother Imboden as Vice Regent by unanimous consent, and only await your approval. Please consider this carefully, and as the occasion is pressing, if you approve of both, telegraph us *immediately* "*Yes*", and if not, "*No*", and then send your reasons by mail. You must excuse haste, but I am writing against time. We shall anxiously await your decision in this matter, so don't delay.

Chapter I sends love to X.

Yours in Sigma Nu,
P. E. YEATMAN,
Scribe.

This final compact which assured harmony, and bound the two Chapters together in a new way, was barely consummated before the summer adjournment of the North Georgia College. Six days after Yeatman's letter was written, the following reply was mailed:

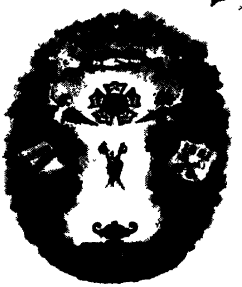
N. Ga. College,
Dahlonega, Ga.,
June 14, 1882.

P. E. Yeatman,
Dear Bro. in Sigma Nu:

Yours of the 8th inst. At a called meeting last night I was authorized to answer yours in the affirmative by telegraph, which I did this A. M.

Our commencement exercises closed one hour ago. Everything is in bustle—boys preparing to go home. Five of the Sigma Nus received diplomas tonight and another was expecting to receive one also, but failed on Greek. So next year five of our best members will be absent. Bro. M. N. Stow won the prize drill metal, Bro. R. L. Longstreet the Latin medal, and Bro. G. M. Napier won the medal offered by the Phi Mu Literary Society to the best debater.

Sigma Nu Fraternity



To all to whom these shall come, Greeting:-

Know by virtue of a decree of the Legion of

We, the Grand Chapter

and their associates, by Charter constituted a Chapter, to be called Kappa Chapter X at South Georgia Agricultural College, Quitman County of Brooks, State of Georgia, and shall be governed in the constitution under which it was first instituted or by laws for the government of such chapter to be framed to suit the circumstances of the chapter, and shall in no wise be at variance with the constitution.

Signed,

KAPPA'S CHARTER

Historic document issued to Chapter X, as Kappa then was known. Engrossed by William F. Crusselle, of Kappa.

Brother Imboden accepted the office of Vice Regent and promises to do his best. Your reasons in favor of Brother Wade were good ones; therefore, we accept him as Regent.

With much love from X to I, I remain

Yours in Sigma Nu,

B. F. LEE.

The assiduous Scribe of Chapter I lost no time in clinching this crowning achievement in the effort to re-establish firmly the Fraternity's administrative functions. Tidings were sent immediately to Hampton Wade informing him of his election to the regency. The reply, dated just one week after the letter from Lee, evidences the dispatch of Yeatman and the readiness of Wade for service in Sigma Nu.

W. HAMPTON WADE
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Old Planters Bank

Savannah, Ga., June 21st, 1882.

Mr. P. E. Yeatman,

My Dear Sir: Your favor in behalf of the ΣN Fraternity is at hand and their invitation to me to become Regent noted. While I would have greatly preferred some older member to have filled the high Office of Regent, I, of course, feel too highly honored by the offer of it to me to think of declining. You may convey my acceptance of Regent of the ΣN to the Chapter with the warmest feelings towards them individually and collectively. It will prove to be a crowning comfort to the pleasure I took in the ΣN while a cadet, and as advancement and success pours upon the Fraternity it will be a source of gratification to feel I am so honorably connected with the Chapter. Believe me to be a sincere ΣN.

W. HAMPTON WADE.

Thus it was that the regency was reclaimed, and Chapter X received her charter. Strangely certified was this precious document, since the authority granted to the eight charter members, dated March 11, 1881, was signed by the twenty-ninth initiate. What mattered the inconsistency? The "honor of X" was no longer compromised, and John Howard had the instrument that evidenced the right he so successfully employed. But before this torch bearer of Sigma Nu lighted the way to other shrines, another altar fire was kindled from the embers of fraternalism which glowed incessantly in the personalities of Omohundro and Yeatman.



WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

Campus view and buildings as they appeared when Chapter XI, Lambda Chapter, was established there. From a wood cut print in an early *Delta*.

CHAPTER IX

The Sovereign Triumvirate

THE renaissance inspired by Hampton Wade early in the second decade approached its climax in the spring of 1882. The restoration of Chapter X to harmonious relationship did not abate the zeal of Commander Omohundro, but quickened his determination to strengthen the Fraternity further by the establishment of a Chapter at Washington and Lee University. This was an undertaking not easily accomplished nor certain of enduring success. Twelve fraternities already had established Chapters at this neighboring institution. Phi Kappa Psi, Beta Theta Pi, Alpha Tau Omega, Kappa Alpha (S), Sigma Chi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Delta Psi, Phi Gamma Delta and Kappa Sigma survived in a crowded field, from which Delta Kappa Epsilon, Chi Phi and Theta Delta Chi had withdrawn. General conditions certainly were not encouraging, and feeling between the V. M. I. cadets and the University students was at variance with an inviting attitude toward the acknowledged leaders of V. M. I. fraternities.

Socially, this incongruity was strongly apparent. The cadets still were regarded with some misgivings by many of the staid Presbyterians. On the other hand, sons of strict Calvinistic training were often looked upon with a degree of contempt by many of their uniformed neighbors. There was an abandon about the cadets that made them conspicuous socially, while a more retiring manner peculiar to the University boys won from their soldier rivals the name of "sit-abouts". There was common ground between them in most Lexington homes, but social allies were sometimes so strongly partial that they were known as Washington and Lee girls or V. M. I. girls.

Just outside the gates of V. M. I., in no-man's land between the two institutions, lived Miss Daisy Madison, a Sigma Nu girl, whose name became affectionately revered in the traditions of the Fraternity. Miss Madison was a direct descendant of President Madison, and was representative of the honored stock which then graced Lexington society. The boundary line between the Institute grounds and the Madison home was a well-worn path somewhat obscured by trees and shrubbery that lined the avenue to the barracks. This home might properly be called the first Sigma Nu house, since it was there that members of Chapter I gathered frequently, not always respecting rules which limited freedom from the grounds to certain hours on Saturday. Although a Sigma Nu girl, Miss Madison's hospitality was shared by others, including a favored few from the University. Among these was Isaac Poitevint Robinson, of Louisiana. Young Robinson had entered the preparatory department of Washington and



THE MADISON HOME
Residence just outside the Gates of V. M. I., where associations were formed that led to the founding of the Washington and Lee Chapter.

Lee in September, 1877. He was then in his sixteenth year, a modest boy whose every movement indicated the instincts and training of gentility.

Isaac Poitevint Robinson was born at Cotton Point Plantation, Red River Parish, Louisiana, December 18, 1861. He was the son of George Washington Robinson and Harriet Ann Bludworth. Both of these families came of honored and distinguished lineage. The Robinsons were early settlers in North Carolina, where Isaac's grandfather, John Robinson, served in the Revolutionary War with the rank of colonel. He was the friend of George Washington, for whom he named one of his sons. The Bludworths were pioneers in South Carolina. A branch of the family moved to Monroe, Louisiana, where Captain Milton Bludworth, father of Harriet, fought in the War of 1812. Harriet's grandfather was the Marquis Breville de Breard, a French Huguenot, who, after being dispossessed of his estate, came to this country and settled in Louisiana. He was so pleased with American citizenship that he discarded his title.



ISAAC POITEVINT ROBINSON, LAMBDA
Founder of the Washington and Lee Chapter, which development gave impetus to extension activities.

Robinson attended Fillmore Academy in Louisiana before entering the Washington and Lee preparatory school. He pursued his studies in this department several years, then entered the University, electing a course in a number of branches, and was graduated in 1885. During the winter of 1879-80, Robinson and Commander Wade, of Alpha, were introduced at the home of Miss Madison. The meeting was mere formality, however, and only a casual acquaintance followed. During the winter of 1881-82 Robinson had an intimate friend from Louisiana among the cadets, and through him met two members of Sigma Nu from that State, Horace P. Bougere and Frank M. Zeigler, initiates of the year 1879-80. Through them Robinson met most of the members of Sigma Nu, and with one, Robert Lee Poage, an intimate friendship resulted.

These associations were encouraged at the social functions of Miss Madison, with whom Robinson was a favorite. The members of Chapter I became impressed with him as a desirable prospect to inaugurate a Chapter at the University, and Poage was delegated to invite Robinson to membership, preparatory to forming the new Chapter. The invitation was accepted, and on Saturday afternoon, May 10, 1882, Robinson was initiated by Commander Omohundro and Thomas J. Charlton, Lieutenant Commander, in the presence of the members of Chapter I at their hall in the Tutwiler Building on Main Street. An attempt to found the new Chapter was not made until the fall opening. But the effort had been launched, and the administration of Commander Omohundro was brought to a fitting climax.

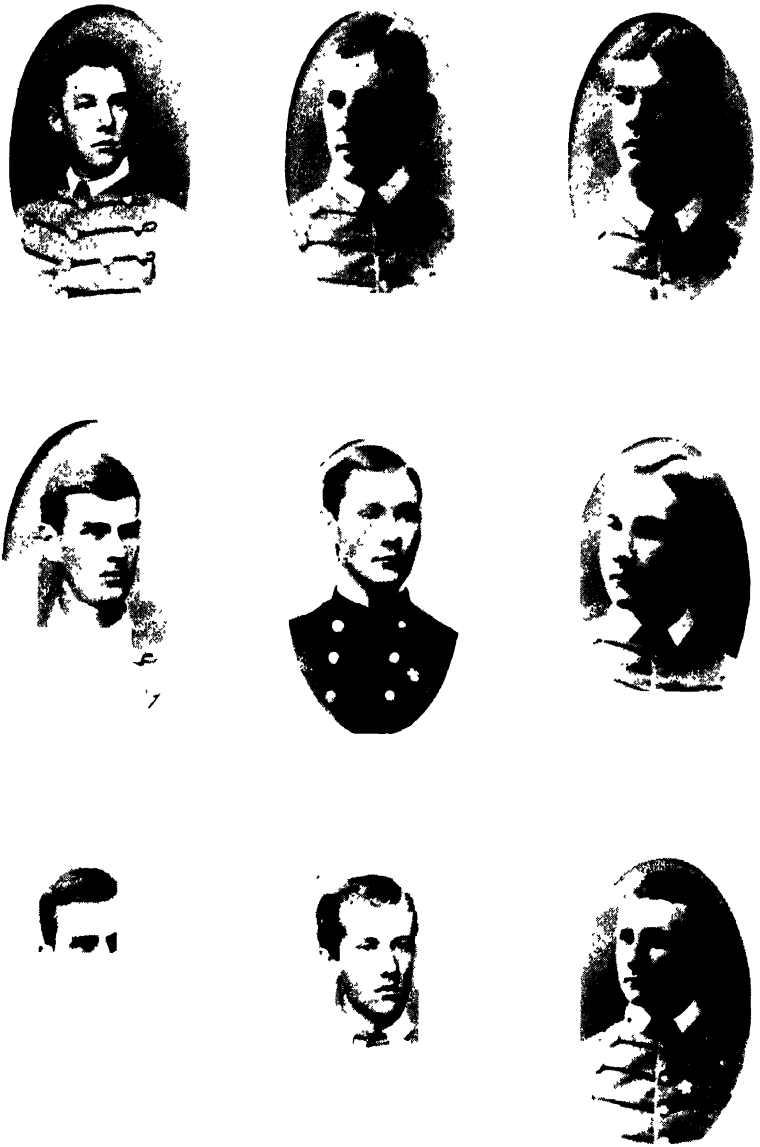


ROBERT LEE POAGE, ALPHA
His friendship with Robinson, Founder of Lambda, was the contact that resulted in the establishment of Chapter XI, as Lambda Chapter at Washington and Lee then was known.

The graduation of Robert Lee Poage was the only depressing prospect at the close of this, the most important and most successful year of the Fraternity up to that time. A characterization of Poage by Omohundro is here appropriate:

"'Blondy' was his pseudonym by all the rights of nature's gifts. He was not handsome, but, 'Oh, so delightfully and surprisingly fascinating,' as one little charmer described him. Catch him in repose, which was seldom possible, one would scarcely take a second look; but when animated he was so changed the transformation was startling. His smile was winning and infectious, and imparted to the muscles of his upper face a movement that almost closed his eyes. When he was greatly amused, his bluish gray eyes had a trick as if trying to see the other end of his eyebrows, which latter were of so indefinable a color they were scarcely visible to the beholder.

"'Blondy' Poage was ever the bearer of good tidings. Joy and love pervaded his very life. Moroseness or gloom faded before his coming. The story of some disaster, if told by him, was robbed of its horrors. Laughter and good cheer accompanied him, and in parting pleasant thoughts followed him. The soul of honor, a strict observer of the amenities of every occasion, this sorrel-topped son of southwestern Virginia was a lovable friend and a charming companion. As a Knight of the Order he labored with great zeal and enthusiasm, receiving his orders and executing them with the energy and faithfulness of a Crusader. He laid with his own hands the foundation stone of the Washington and Lee Chapter. He asked for and received authority to invite Robinson to member-



INITIATES OF EARLY YEARS OF ALPHA'S SECOND DECADE

1, Samuel V. Fulkerson; 2, John L. Boush; 3, John F. Walker; 4, Alexander H. Fitzgerald; 5, John R. Doles; 6, Dallas Flannagan; 7, Charles M. Snelling; 8, John H. Winston; 9, Augustus C. Spotts.

ship. Had there been no Poage, there would have been no Robinson; hence, in all probability, Lambda Chapter would not have been formed."

During the college year 1882-83 the superstructure of a national Fraternity began to rise on the rebuilt foundation. Chapter I was manned by a personnel eminently befitting this auspicious period. The election of the gallant Yeatman, as Commander, betokened the crowning year of Alpha's history, assuring the realization of results portended by the restoration of Chapter X, and by the promised establishment of Chapter XI. Yeatman almost from the day of his matriculation had devoted his exceptional talents and unwearying energies to the upbuilding of Sigma Nu. It was appropriate that he should be the Commander of Alpha when the Fraternity emerged from vicissitudes of early years and faced a promising future. Faithfully standing by, the loyal and willing Omohundro accepted the duties of Grand Scribe. Offices to these men were not honors, but opportunities. It mattered not what the rank; the two "Phils" were side by side with but one ambition—service for Sigma Nu.



PHILIP EDWARD YEATMAN
Commander of Alpha, 1882-83, who directed the culminating achievements of the Renaissance period.

The Lieutenant Commander that year was Horace P. Bougere. "Pete" was Omohundro's roommate, a perfect gentleman by birth and in manners. The Chesterfieldian Samuel Vance Fulkerson was Treasurer. Popular, soldier-bearing Alexander H. Fitzgerald was Scribe. The brilliant John R. Doles served as Princeps Justicia. John F. Walker, cousin of Poage, was Delta Kappa. All were men worthy of the distinction of service at this important period.

Four men of extraordinary caliber were initiated that year, each making individual contribution to the glory won for Alpha by the superb group composing the 1882-83 Chapter. Dallas Flannagan, brainy, well-balanced, and a man of deep learning, became a Grand Officer of the Fraternity in later years. Charles Mercer Snelling was graduated as second captain in 1884, and remained as assistant professor of mathematics. He also served the national organization in an official capacity, and became chancellor of the University of Georgia, where for many years he had been a beloved professor. John H. Winston was graduated as second captain in 1885. He was a brilliant orator, winning the debater's medal, and was valedictorian of his class. Augustus Cortland Spotts was graduated in 1886 with rank of first lieutenant. He came from a distinguished Virginia family, and his name as well as his achievements added lustre to Alpha's roll. A testimonial to the worth of these four initiates is the fact that all of them were graduated. In

scholarship, in military honors and in social prominence they matched the high merit of the other members, and helped make this group a super-Chapter in the history of Alpha.

This supremacy of Sigma Nu was of great advantage to Robinson in his efforts to pledge members for the new Chapter at Washington and Lee University. "Ike", as he was affectionately called, returned early in September, 1882, to begin his conquest. He soon learned that he would need all the prestige that Alpha could give to enable him to succeed. There was not only a lack of cordiality in the Hellenic attitude toward the venture, but there was haughty and derisive contempt evidenced openly. Little wonder there was disfavor and doubt expressed for the undertaking, since there were but one hundred and thirty-two students to support the fraternities. Three of the nine Greek-letter societies maintaining chapters there existed only nominally, while the others continued a contest of the survival of the fittest. The unfriendly attitude of the fraternities only intensified Robinson's determination to merit the honor and confidence bestowed upon him by Sigma Nu. His first convert was made soon after the University opened, Frank Reynolds Walker, of Atlanta, Georgia, a law student, having been induced to pledge allegiance to Sigma Nu. He was initiated September 16th by the officers of Chapter I in the hall where Robinson had been knighted.



JOHN CARMICHAEL, ALPHA
Contemporary of the Founders, who was active in behalf of Alpha and Lambda Chapters during years of residence at Lexington.

Encouraged by the first success, Robinson pursued the quest aggressively. Every evening at the sunset hour of recreation the members of Chapter I gathered to receive reports from their diligent disciple, and to meet any new prospects he had to introduce. Omohundro in captain's array, Yeatman in lieutenant's attire, and Doles in adjutant's uniform lent colorful appeal to Robinson's rushing arguments. Yeatman as president of the Dialectic Literary Society and Doles as second honor man in scholarship added intellectual impress. The personnel in every way commanded admiration. The strongest of the Washington and Lee rivals, on the other hand, had the influence of prominent alumni, whose social position and connection with university activities made them valuable assets to their respective Chapters. Phi Kappa Psi and Beta Theta Pi had been established there almost thirty years. Their traditions were intimately associated with the development of the University during that period of time, and consequently these two or-

ganizations had prestige that was commanding. Inasmuch as the V. M. I. students were generally from a distance, the lack of alumni among the townspeople was obvious.

The one Lexington alumnus whom Sigma Nu boasted was the beloved John Carmichael, and he made up for the want of numbers. He had returned to Lexington for residence, having married the daughter of the founder of the Washington and Lee law department, and he had won an enviable place in the esteem of the community. His loyalty had been put to test by an invitation suggesting that he renounce his Sigma Nu allegiance and join one of the older fraternities, which at that time had no compunctions regarding the practice of "lifting". To John Carmichael this was a challenge to his integrity. It only intensified his loyalty to Sigma Nu, and increased his desire to be of service to his Fraternity. He was of great help to Robinson in early endeavors, and remained a valuable aid of the Washington and Lee Chapter.

With the assistance of Alpha and this steadfast Knight of the Legion of Honor, Robinson pledged three men of superior merit, who were initiated by Chapter I at its hall on October 21, 1882. William Arthur Charters, of Richmond, Virginia, taking the senior law course, became one of the most forceful figures among the charter members, and won much honor in the University. He was president of his senior law class; associate editor of the *Southern Collegian*, a University periodical; president and commencement orator of the Washington Literary Society; winner of the Young Prize Scholarship; received the degree of LL. B.; and was graduated with the highest scholastic honors in his class. Gordon O'Beirne, of Huntington, West Virginia, also in the law department, became one of the most zealous workers in the Chapter. He succeeded Charters as president of the Washington Literary Society; was orator at the anniversary celebration of this society; was an associate editor of the *Southern Collegian*; and was marshal at the unveiling of the Robert E. Lee statue. Mathew Hume Clay, of Paris, Kentucky, majoring in English, became one of the best loved and most loyal members. He was secretary of the Washington Literary Society, and was number three oar in the Harry Lee boat crew, when a call to return to his home necessitated his retirement in his second year.

Success begot success, and another victory followed speedily when Clarence Wainwright Murphey, of Salisbury, North Carolina, was pledged. Eager to secure their charter and to establish themselves as a Chapter, the Washington and Lee members decided not to delay initiation until the next semi-monthly meeting, when Alpha's hall would be available, and Murphey took the vows in Robinson's room, Yeatman and Bougere officiating in the presence of Omohundro and Robinson. Most of the homes of Lexington were shared with students, and Robinson was fortunate in having a place in the McCrum homestead, the residence of one of the old and honored families of the community. It was there that Murphey was initiated and where later he lived, his talents and good fellowship helping to make this abode a shrine of Sigma Nu.

Murphey's initiation was the sixth, and with this number Chapter XI, later designated Lambda, was organized in its own rooms about the first of November, 1882. Robinson was elected Commander; Charters, Lieutenant Com-







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CHARTER MEMBERS AND FIRST-YEAR INITIATES OF LAMBDA CHAPTER

1, Isaac P. Robinson; 2, William A. Charters; 3, Gordon O'Beirne; 4, Mathew H. Clay; 5, Clarence W. Murphey; 6, Walter L. Northcutt; 7, Eugene L. Alford; 8, Albert H. Alford; 9, Hugh W. McCrum.

mander; Clay, Grand Scribe; and O'Beirne, Princeps Justicia. Two more members were initiated in the first month of the Chapter's existence, Walter Lee Northcutt, of Cynthiana, Kentucky, and Eugene Lemuel Alford, of Dallas, Texas, entering the Knighthood in November, 1882. Northcutt was elected Treasurer of the Chapter immediately following his initiation.

With this well-balanced complement of capable and enthusiastic young men, Chapter XI started at once on the course which was to make it famous. Robinson had imbibed the spirit of Chapter I that had inspired the rebuilding of the Fraternity's framework, and he imparted to the new Chapter the determination to continue the work so auspiciously begun. O'Beirne was the first to evince this missionary zeal which became celebrated as the animating motive of his Chapter's greatest achievements. O'Beirne had a friend at the University of Virginia, William Henry McElwee, the two having been companions while attending Roller Military Academy at Fort Defiance, Virginia. Through correspondence, McElwee was invited to become a member. By direction of Chapter XI and with authority from Chapter I, O'Beirne visited McElwee during Christmas holidays, and initiated him into the Fraternity. This resulted in the re-establishment of the Chapter which Henry Tupper Drane had attempted to organize, twelve years previously, under the first charter dispensation granted by Alpha.

When O'Beirne returned after the holidays with tidings of his achievement his success stirred others to similar endeavor. Northcutt and Clay had a Kentucky friend, Louis R. Rogers, who was attending Bethany College at Bethany, West Virginia, and another boyhood acquaintance, M. George Y. Forman, a student at Central University, Richmond, Kentucky. Correspondence was begun with these friends, resulting in the chartering of Chapters at both institutions, Chapter XII at Bethany College, later known as Epsilon, and Chapter XIII at Central University, afterwards designated as Zeta. The momentous import of this spontaneous activity of Chapter XI cannot be measured by its immediate results, for out of these establishments grew other foundings, which made much of the subsequent history of Sigma Nu traceable to the assiduity of Chapter XI during the early period of its existence.

This extension effort did not interrupt local activity, and in the meantime two new members had been written upon this illustrious honor roll. In December, Albert Hulbert Alford, brother of Eugene Alford, was initiated, followed in February, 1883, by Hugh White McCrum, scion of the honorable family at whose home Robinson and Murphey lived. No more initiations were made that college year, and no further extension was attempted. But the roots of the first year's success were deeply grounded in this fertile field of fraternity, from which other branches were to grow and propagate. The germ of this prolific fraternal spirit of Chapter XI was conceived in the hearts of its first-year members, whose loyalty to Sigma Nu and whose friendship for one another exemplified true fraternity. Circumstances made extremely limited the period of time that these charter members were to be together. But in those few months of fellowship, associations were formed which lasted during life-time, and which radiated in many places and on many occasions the inspiration of

their fraternal affections. Sigma Nu had little to afford these young men except opportunity for service. But in this unfailing source of genuine pleasure they found the supreme enjoyment of fraternity relationships. In passing, it is appropriate to chronicle the fact that sons of two of these men—Charters and Eugene Alford—became Brothers in Sigma Nu. Robinson served two terms as Regent, and Murphey twice was elected Vice Regent.

While these memorable events of history were being enacted at Lexington, farther down the Blue Ridge range was being evolved the most important development since the founding of the Fraternity, without the consequences of which the success of Chapter XI would doubtless have been for naught, and the achievements of Chapter I would merely have signaled the last victory before the final dissolution of Sigma Nu. For the instant prosperity of Chapter XI was not without its contraverting influences. Likewise, the pre-eminence of Chapter I invited opposition which, concealing its motive in the popular antifraternity arguments, hastened the doom of Greek-letter societies at V. M. I. As if Sigma Nu were predestined to survive, her future life was being vouchsafed against this approaching crisis while the two Chapters at Lexington were reveling in their victories.

The reanimation of the spirit of Chapter X at Dahlonega manifested a peculiar anomaly of its first year, when aroused in the spring of 1882 by the appeal from Omohundro. In this connection it should be noted that John Alexander Howard, when he inspired the organization to petition for a charter of a national fraternity, was in his twenty-fourth year of age, and that he had been an alumnus for three years. His unusual interest and activity had not been created through regular channels of collegiate fraternity life. It was an irresistible and unyielding passion for service of this nature that prompted him to promote this association among young men of the College. It should be understood also that there was a mutuality that linked community and college population in common interest. This association of aims and activities was due to the fact that Dahlonega was a small town, isolated, and snugly surrounded by foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in such a way that it seemed self-existent. Hence social interdependence was fostered, and intimacy among inhabitants and sojourners was induced. John Howard held a unique place in the common affections of college students, townspeople and temporary residents. The latter group embraced officials in charge of gold-mining operations and non-resident members of the faculty. The old Besser Hotel was their popular abode, and it was there that evenings of informal discussion drew leaders of the intellectual population into very close fellowship.

When Chapter X secured its charter it was natural that John Howard should conceive the idea of sharing the honor and privilege with others, who, like himself, were not then attending the College. This inclusion of non-collegians was not original with Howard. It had been the practice of the first Greek-letter society to charter community "meetings", and the organization of resident Chapters had been attempted by many fraternities. Generally, these non-collegiate grants had not succeeded. The experience of Sigma Nu in giving the dispensation for Chapter IV at Tarboro, North Carolina, had

discouraged further effort of the kind in Alpha's pursuit of new Chapters. There was no opposition to the practice at that time, however, and Chapter X did not violate its privilege when it admitted others than students to membership. The first instance of this kind was its fifteenth initiate, and none other than Colonel David William Lewis, president of the College. Immediately following his name is that of Joseph J. Singleton, then professor of mathematics. Two trustees of the College also were included in the first year's initiates, Marion Goodman Boyd, an attorney who had attended another institution, and William Andrew Burnside, a prominent merchant of Dahlonega. The membership of these four men was kept secret during their official connection with



THE OLD BESSER HOTEL
Meeting place of members of Chapter X, Kappa Chapter. The building later was converted into a dormitory for girls of North Georgia College.

the College. The rule then was for college officials to antagonize fraternities. This exception demonstrated the peculiar element in this environment which produced and perpetuated a fraternal spirit, rare in fervency and constant in its manifestations.

During its early years, Chapter X continued this practice of initiating others than matriculated students. Among those initiated were a number of the alumni of the College, including Trammell and Oliver N. Starr, brothers and attorneys, who had been members of John Howard's class of 1878; William Frank Crusselle, of the same class, who was initiated in 1883, when he returned to become professor of Latin; and Elias Benton Vickery, for more than thirty-five years professor of Latin at North Georgia College, and who was second only to John Howard in interest in the Chapter and in loyalty to the welfare of Sigma Nu at Dahlonega. Vickery was attending the College when the Chapter was organized in 1881; but his course was interrupted and he was not initiated until he returned to resume his studies.

Other notable non-collegiate initiates of Chapter X were Thomas Russell Lombard, a young mining engineer who had been graduated from Mount Washington Collegiate Institute, New York City; Jacob Peck Imboden, superintendent of gold mines at Dahlonega, elected Vice Regent of the Fraternity a few months after his initiation, and later U. S. Consul to Central America; and Joseph Garrard, popular as commandant when Howard and Childress were cadets, later a colonel in the regular army and a famous military tactician. Imboden and some ex-students were initiated in January, 1882. prior to the decision of the Chapter to disband because of failure to secure its promised charter. Garrard was the only initiate in the spring of 1882, after Omohundro's appeal had reconciled this situation. Garrard had returned to attend commencement exercises at Dahlonega, and his initiation cemented friendships dating from the opening year of the College.



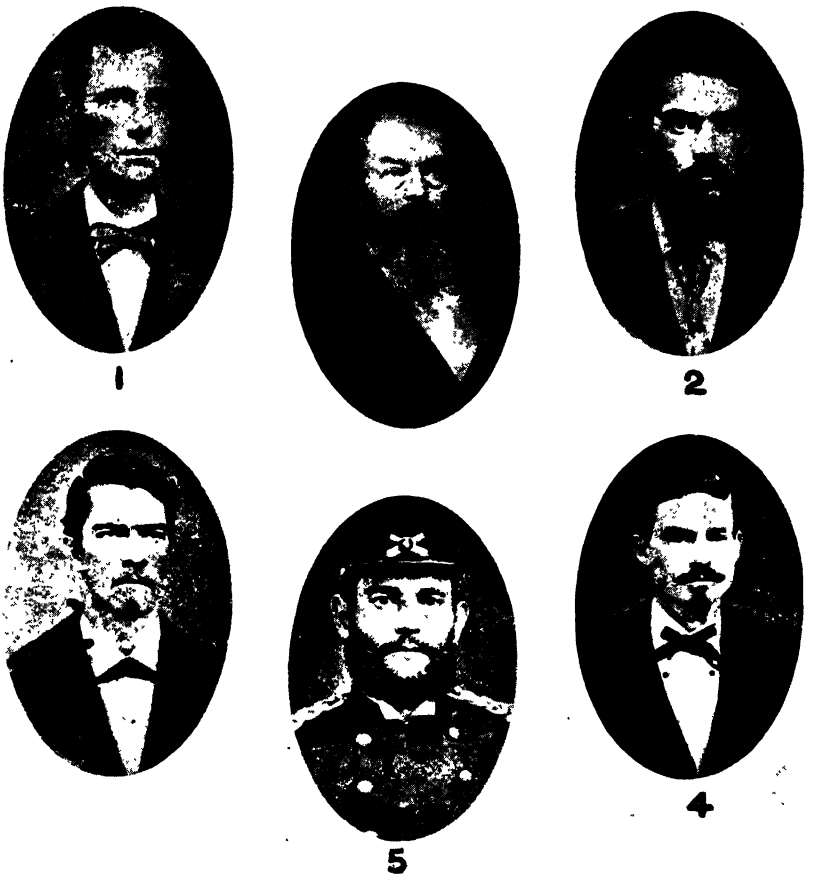
JACOB P. IMBODEN, KAPPA
Vice Regent of Sigma Nu, 1882-84.

The admission of these popular sojourners during the college year of 1881-82 increased the local prestige of Sigma Nu, but augured ill for the Chapter, since the great need was for matriculated students. Graduation of the remaining charter members at the 1882 commencement depleted the roll of the Chapter, and at the beginning of the college year 1882-83 but one collegiate member of Sigma Nu returned, George Thomas Wills, a senior, who had been initiated the previous fall. John Howard was temporarily residing elsewhere. Childress was in Dahlonega, although not in college that year. Childress and Wills pledged James Atticus Wardlaw, a junior, and a life-long friend of George M. Napier, one of the charter members. Wardlaw was initiated at Beck's drug store, the proprietor of which was one of the ex-students taken in during the previous year.

John Howard returned to Dahlonega during that college year, and as a result of his effort several initiations followed, including non-collegians and students. The most important acquisition of the year was Walter Victor Lanier, member of a distinguished Georgia family, who was destined to become one of the celebrated disciples whom this Chapter sent forth to dedicate other shrines. The rescue of Chapter X from near extinction, which had threatened it at the beginning of the year, was a timely achievement. The Chapters at Lexington were then at the peak of excellence, and all seemed set for the important developments of the spring of 1883.

At that time, John Howard had been a member of Sigma Nu for two years.

The connection had not been wholly gratifying to his desires. The trouble over the charter the first year had retarded his interest, since it frustrated extension efforts that had absorbed Chapter X during its inaugural period, for which activity Howard principally had been responsible. It was not the woeful condition of the Fraternity that discouraged him, but the circumstances



FACULTY OF NORTH GEORGIA COLLEGE

1, E. W. Beck; 2, B. P. Gaillard, two sons of whom became members of Kappa Chapter; 3, G. B. Lawrason; 4, B. M. Hall, father of two members of Kappa Chapter; 5, Joseph Garrard, thirtieth initiate of Kappa Chapter; 6, David W. Lewis, president of North Georgia College, fifteenth initiate of Kappa Chapter.

that had curbed his usefulness. John Alexander Howard was blessed with intellect rare, and was endowed with marked ability. But seemingly he was beset by an insuperable inclination to employ his faculties in ways not likely to result in personal emolument. He had talent for letters, which led him naturally to newspaper work. Yet a restless soul would not let him remain

steadily at one task, nor long enough in one place to develop his gifts. He had initiative superfluous, but lacked pertinacity.

John Howard read periodicals with a passion for knowledge of men and affairs outside of his own sphere. This habit agitated his transient nature, and aggravated an insatiable longing that never was subdued. Fraternity magazines particularly appealed to him. He read Baird's *Manual of American College Fraternities* until he was familiar with the history and standing of all such organizations. This study led him to observe shortcomings of Sigma Nu, and wherein his Fraternity lacked conformity with others. The need of a magazine to bind the Brotherhood and to promulgate the cause was apparent to him. There were no funds to finance such a venture, and there was not sufficient membership to support it. Here was prospect for labor of love and sacrifice that prevailed upon John Howard's weakness. Excessive generosity contributed to his improvident ways, and his personal means were meager. This condition put no restraint upon his ungovernable disposition to subordinate his own welfare, however, and he determined to publish a magazine for Sigma Nu.



UNOFFICIAL COAT OF ARMS
Designed by John Alexander Howard, but never submitted for adoption officially.

One of the disconformities which Howard observed in Sigma Nu was the use of Roman numerals in Chapter nomenclature. He suggested to the three existent Chapters the use of Greek letters, and with their approval he gave the defunct and living Chapters designations in the order of their establishment. By this change, Chapter I became Alpha; Chapter X at North Georgia College was named Kappa; and Chapter XI at Washington and Lee was given the next letter, Lambda. In his consideration of a name for the magazine he contemplated publishing, Howard conceived the appropriateness of the use of the triangular-shaped Greek letter "Delta" as symbolical of the triad of Chapters then living. This appellation he decided upon, and hence came the name of *The Delta*.

The first issue of *The Delta* appeared in April, 1883. It was printed in Philadelphia by the firm of McLaughlin Brothers, and consisted of sixteen pages bound in a light blue cover, diagonally across the front of which appeared in Greek letters the words, *Sigma Nu Delta*. It had an imposing makeup, for that time, containing interesting information concerning general fraternity activities, valuable historical references, and letters from the three living Chapters. Associate editors who contributed these communications were Philip E.

Yeatman, Alpha; James A. Wardlaw, Kappa; and A. H. Alford, Lambda.

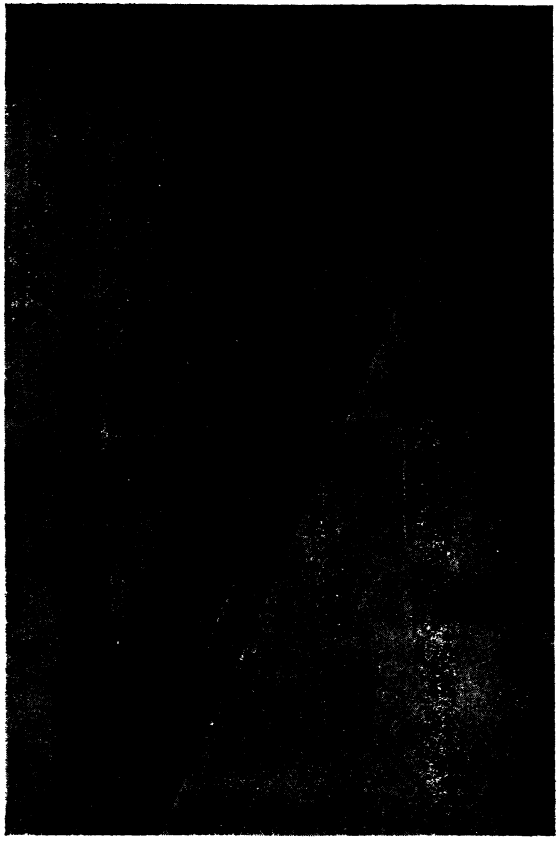
Coincident with this magazine venture, Howard revived the catalogue project, the first issue of *The Delta* carrying a list of names with requests for addresses of more than half the total membership of the Fraternity. The inclusion of the names of the three Founders in this list of those whose addresses were unknown indicates the dearth of records at that period. Howard styled himself business manager as well as editor-in-chief. He omitted the use of the name "John", by which he had generally been known, and used the name Alexander Howard. In his introductory editorial, which follows, there is expressed the heart motive of this heroic pioneer, whose ambition was to promote in Sigma Nu the same sentiment which stirred his own soul, and to inspire the same devotion which prompted him in this gift to his Fraternity.

"With this issue, we enter the field of fraternity journalism; and in presenting our first number, we deem it appropriate to state the fundamental principle on which it is based, and some of the leading objects for which it is designed. We desire to cultivate a love of harmony, love of our Fraternity, a love of the home of our birth and childhood. We would secure a union of hearts and purposes in life, and form a chain to keep alive the holiest and sweetest ties of love and friendship among our members which can be broken only by death. Though the vast prairies, the lofty mountains, the stronger bar of the years of time, may stretch out between us and blot out their faces from our memory, yet this little sheet will keep alive the tenderest emotions. It will give the most important facts connected with the history of the Fraternity from its incipiency, names and deaths of any of its members, vocations of all who have gone abroad, the successes or failures, the welfare and prosperity of all its members. With this brief explanation of our purposes and expectations, we launch our little bark, hoping by industry and perseverance to merit and receive the support of all true 'Sigs', who would lend a 'helping hand' to sustain our efforts."



SIDE VIEW OF *DELTA* PRINTING OFFICE
The building was so situated that a full view picture was difficult to obtain.

Originally, *The Delta* was intended to be a monthly magazine. But the second number did not appear until July, and thereafter it was published as a quarterly. Beginning with the third issue, *The Delta* was printed by the firm of Sutton and Son, Dahlonega, in a brick building that had been started for a Presbyterian Church, but which later was finished for commercial use. Here John Howard was permitted to give personal supervision to the mechanical construction, with which part of the work he had become familiar in his



THE SIGMA NU DELTA.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGMA NU FRATERNITY.

Dahlonega, Georgia, April, 1883.

EDITORIAL STAFF.

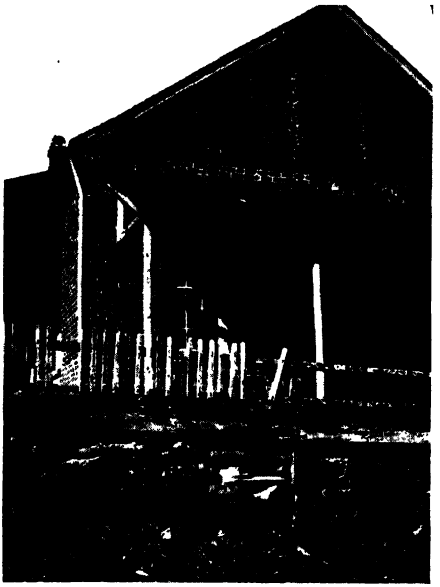
P E YEATMAN, Alpha
A H ALFORD, Lambda J A WARDLAW, Kappa

WITH this issue, we enter the field of Fraternity Journalism; and in presenting our first number, we deem it appropriate to state the fundamental principle on which it is based, and some of the leading objects for which it is designed. We desire to cultivate a love of harmony, a love of our fraternity, a love of the home of our birth and childhood We would secure a union of hearts and purposes in life, and form a chain to keep alive the holiest and sweetest ties of love and friendship among our members which can be broken only by death. Though the vast prairie, the lofty mountains, the stronger bar of the years of time, may stretch out between us and blot out their faces from our memory, yet this little sheet will keep alive the tenderest emotions. It will give the most important facts connected with the history of the fraternity from its incipiency, names and deaths of any of its members, vocations of all who have gone abroad, the successes or failures, the welfare and

FRONT COVER AND PAGE OF FIRST ISSUE OF *THE DELTA*, APRIL, 1883

newspaper experience. The first was sent gratis to every member whose address could be ascertained. The response to requests for subscriptions was gratifying, but it was soon evident that *The Delta* would not be self-supporting until the membership increased materially. There were about two hundred members of Sigma Nu at that time, and the addresses of at least half of them were unknown.

The mission of *The Delta* began to be realized from the beginning, however, letters of appreciation to Howard bearing evidence that his efforts were serving "to secure a union of hearts and purposes" and to form "a chain to keep alive the holiest and sweetest ties of love and friendship". Alumni who had been out of touch with the Fraternity for years, without meeting or hearing from a member of Sigma Nu, were brought back to renewed interest through the columns of alumni personals, and to amazed appreciation of the Fraternity's progress by reading the Chapter letters. The stimulating effect upon the Chapters was revealed in their *Delta* communications, and coordination never before attempted became apparent. In Alpha's first Chapter letter Commander Yeatman wrote:



WHERE EARLY DELTAS WERE PRINTED
Building at Dahlonega, Georgia, where *The Delta* printing office was located.

"Accept our heartiest congratulations upon your energy and love for our Fraternity. I cannot undertake to tell how much she owes to Chapter X, or rather 'Kappa'. I think I can safely promise that we will do our part for the catalogue, since you boys have touched our pride in doing *more* than yours. I shall also stir up the alumni to a sense of duty to their Fraternity, and have no doubt but they will respond liberally."

A. H. Alford, Lambda's correspondent, wrote in the second Chapter letter from Washington and Lee University:

"We received with delight the first number of *The Delta,* and all were much pleased with the neatness and taste displayed in its general composition. On the whole we were all satisfied, and greatly commended your energy and enterprise in beginning and giving such an impetus to this almost indispensable innovation."

The associate editor for Kappa, J. A. Wardlaw, extended the North Georgia College Chapter's felicitations in its letter as follows:

"Kappa greets her sister Chapters through the medium of *The Delta.* It has been about two years since our Chapter began her existence; and during this

youthful period her faithful proteges have ever borne her banner upon lofty waves of fraternal love; and we glory in the assurance that a bright prospect of her future destiny is not drifting on the wave of arrogance, but on one worthy of true prediction."

The improved condition of the Fraternity and the call to further achievement is feelingly set forth in a *Delta* editorial published in the third issue, appearing in October, 1883.



JOHN ALEXANDER HOWARD
Founder of *The Delta* of Sigma Nu.

"Within the past year the Sigma Nu Fraternity has pushed forward with more rapid strides and with a great deal more of solid, substantial work than has been the case in any one year of her previous existence. At the close of the college year of 1882, the fortunes of our Fraternity were at low ebb, so low as to give rise to serious apprehensions as to our future. The causes of this state of affairs were numerous and evident. We had been unfortunate in the selection of colleges in which we had entered. By this we mean no reflection on the colleges as institutions of learning of high standing; but our misfortune was that the faculties of several colleges at which we were located had in some way or other gotten into their craniums the insane idea that the workings of fraternities were deleterious to the best interests of the colleges. And hence we were compelled to bow to fate and 'step down and out'.

"Again, there was a lack of interest manifested on the part of some of the older chapters, and as a consequence considerable laxity prevailed, and two or three chapters died natural deaths—natural because it seemed that their time of usefulness and work had come to an end, and the vigor they once displayed

and the honor they once won and enjoyed had ceased and had to be reckoned with the things of the past.

"But with the arrival of the college year of 1882-83, our condition assumed a different and altogether more encouraging aspect. Lambda Chapter was established at Washington and Lee University. From that time our career has been a prosperous one. The boys here were enthusiastic. They manifested a determination to work, and right well they have done it. This feeling rapidly spread, and the energies which formerly lay dormant are now displayed with telling effect. All the 'Sigs' have become enthused and the good work goes bravely on. The consequence is that our Fraternity—our dear old mother—has, like Phoenix of old, sprung up from her ashes, and today occupies a position which is bound to command respect. At present we are on a solid foundation—it only remaining for us to make the superstructure grand and imposing.

"Owing to the go-ahead ideas of Kappa we have established this journal—in its pretensions a modest one, it is true, but still a sufficient organ for the dissemination of good feeling and fraternal blessings. Its purpose is the unification of the whole Fraternity, the binding together of the whole body with ties of holy friendship and of more than adamantine strength. Through its columns each and every individual member is enabled to learn the inworkings of every Chapter, as far as practical of every brother.

"We have now in our power the means to more perfectly systematize our plans. Shall we utilize those means? All that is needed is the hearty co-operation of every one, and the work will be done surprisingly quick. Soon we will be found in all desirable colleges, and our numbers will be made tenfold as great as they are. We will become a power in the land, and our influence will not be unfelt in places where at present we are unheard of. Our present numbers are comparatively few, but our faith is as true as steel. We are waging the fight against heavy odds, but our success for the past year has fulfilled the wishes of the most sanguine. Let that success prove an incentive to renewed efforts, and in the end we will have our flag planted on the breastwork of our bitterest opposers."

The next year this prophecy began to be fulfilled with limitless glory to John Alexander Howard. Founder of *The Delta* of Sigma Nu, the light of whose heroic spirit illuminated the record of the Fraternity for many years.

CHAPTER X

Beyond the Blue Ridge

THE era in the history of the Fraternity, beginning with Robinson's establishment of Lambda Chapter at Washington and Lee and the founding of *The Delta* by Howard, has been referred to frequently as the Second Founding of Sigma Nu. Considering the consequences of these events. this expression is not extravagant. As a matter of fact, however, the inference is misleading, since the Fraternity was neither defunct nor dormant, the Mother Chapter never having ceased existence. But the star of destiny that had marked the zenith in Alpha's career was soon to vanish, and hence the momentous achievements of Robinson and Howard have since been reckoned as of superlative importance in the history of the Fraternity.

There was no forecast of the fate of Alpha in the closing correspondence of Commander Yeatman, that vigorous and vigilant worker whose constant application to service in Sigma Nu created for him the title of General Secretary. From plebe days until his finals, "Phil" Yeatman had carried on most of Alpha's correspondence which, by virtue of his own zeal and ability, had increased from a nominal function to an extensive responsibility. His pen had inaugurated a new Regent and a new Vice Regent, and had inducted four new Chapters into the Fraternity. There was no lessening of his optimism in his last letter to *The Delta:*

"The time is drawing nigh when, together with three other Sigs, I must withdraw from active membership with dear old Sigma Nu, and must be content to be placed on the retired list. Although we shall be separated from our beloved Alpha, yet in spirit we shall be with her always; and though no longer honored as active members, she will always find us ready to act at her command, and in her behalf. Alpha is doing well; she will do better next year, as her progress is irresistible."

Less sanguine was the associate editor of Alpha who wrote the following in a Chapter letter at the beginning of the next college year, 1883-84:

"Commencement, which is usually a season of much joy and good will to every one here, brought last year a blow to Alpha, the effect of which she now feels sadly. Brothers Bougere, Doles, Omohundro and Yeatman, after having worked faithfully in the interest of Sigma Nu for four long years, were compelled at last to bid us farewell. We had learned to regard them as men of sound sense and judgment, our mainstays upon whom we were accustomed to rest every question of responsibility that arose."

With Fulkerson as Commander, Snelling, Lieutenant Commander, and Fitz-

gerald, Winston, Flannagan, Walker and Spotts composing the Chapter, its personnel still was superb. Had no other element entered the situation, another year of exceptional achievement would have been chronicled. Even in the midst of critical circumstances, Sigma Nu stood out prominently at V. M. I. that year. Antifraternity feeling had been rapidly growing, the "Molly Maguires" again arousing opposition to all secret organizations. The relationship between the University students and V. M. I. cadets had greatly improved after the establishment of a Chapter of Sigma Nu at Washington and Lee, this bond between leaders of both institutions naturally exerting a harmonious influence. But the "Molly Maguires" found a new object of attack, a determination to drive out an unpopular professor causing a reign of terror at the Institute. The blowing up of the arsenal was their most serious outbreak. This was followed by the discovery of cannon loaded and pointed toward the large gas tank that supplied lights for the Institute.



JOHN H. "JACK" WINSTON, ALPHA
His heroic action in a crisis reflected great credit upon the Mother Chapter of Sigma Nu.

The situation became a scandal published widely in newspapers, and the very foundation of V. M. I. fame, its discipline, was threatened. The governor of the State was appealed to, and a meeting of the Board of Visitors was called at Lexington. After the Board's deliberations, the cadets were ordered to ranks and marched to the assembly room. The president of the Board, a venerable gentleman, made a stirring appeal to the affections of the Corps, recalling the history of the Institute, its traditions and its achievements. When he had finished, there was solemn silence, evidence that the spirit of the cadets had been touched. After a time the president inquired:

"Has the Corps nothing to say?"

Unbidden and without authority, "Jack" Winston, of Alpha, arose. Winston then was a secondclassman, and was known to be opposed to the "Molly Maguires". He began cautiously, feeling his way with moderate declarations and measuring the result by the extent of the applause. Skillfully he proceeded until he felt that he had won the situation, then boldly he pledged the honor of the Corps that the outrages would cease. The vociferous applause left no doubt of the result, and from that moment disorder was ended. This heroic action of "Jack" Winston was probably the most spectacular incident in V. M. I. cadet history following the time when the color-bearer sprang upon a gun carriage and signaled the victory of Newmarket. It was a great day for Sigma Nu, and it served to delay the antifraternity action upon which the Board had decided.

Lambda Chapter was in the limelight at Washington and Lee that same year. Panhellenic opposition, which first had been evidenced by contempt and derision, had turned to respect when Robinson won for Sigma Nu the outstanding men who became charter members and first-year initiates of Lambda Chapter. The success was duplicated the second year, and Sigma Nu became recognized as a worthy rival, arousing the enmity of the stronger organizations. Trouble over the breaking of a pledge focused the fight on Sigma Nu, resulting in open hostilities with the fraternity concerned in the dispute. The overt act that forced the issue occurred at a dance to which Clarence Murphey's sister, a charming favorite of Lambda men, had come from Staunton, where she was attending Mrs. "Jeb" Stuart's popular Episcopal school for girls. During intermission, a member of the fraternity most bitterly antagonistic to Sigma Nu crossed the floor of the dance hall and rudely took a footstool that Miss Murphey was using. The preamble of the "duel" which followed was an argument between Murphey and his sister's escort as to which one was entitled to avenge the insult. Miss Murphey's company at the moment was a member of another fraternity, and it was agreed that the affair should be left to Sigma Nu to settle the well-known grudge between the two unfriendly fraternities.

Difficulties of this nature between fraternities at Washington and Lee were then considered organization affairs, and the right of an individual to seek personal satisfaction was sometimes subordinated in the choice of principals. Murphey was proficient at the piano, but was not known to be expert with his fists. He won a place in the double duel decided upon, however, and with O'Beirne as his second, and a member of a disinterested fraternity as judge, the combat was staged at the old fairgrounds on the outskirts of Lexington. At the same hour, "Jim" Sturgis, a Lambda initiate of that year, fought the co-ordinate "duel" in a ravine behind the V. M. I. barracks. The marks of Sturgis's victory were carried for weeks by his opponent. Murphey's combat was stopped by his adversary's second before such facial evidence had been recorded, much to the relief of Murphey, he privately admitted. This was the way Lambda won her Hellenic spurs at Washington and Lee.

Socially, early Lambda members were very prominent among the younger set in Lexington. Clarence Wainwright Murphey was the "dude" of those days, a reference frequently found in Chapter letters alluding to his innovations, among which was his appearance in a silk "plug" hat when he returned for his sophomore year. Such affectations persisted during the years of his activity at national fraternity functions, and Murphey's "plug" hat was remembered by many, long after matters of serious deliberations were forgotten. The three popular schools for young ladies at Staunton increased the charm and gayety in social life at Lexington for both University students and V. M. I. cadets. Murphey's sister attended the Episcopal school of Mrs. "Jeb" Stuart, widow of the Confederate leader. Lambda members thus gained favor among daughters of the "F. F. V." who patronized that institution. The McCrum home, with Murphey at the piano, was in the year 1883-84 a shrine of Lambda fellowship,

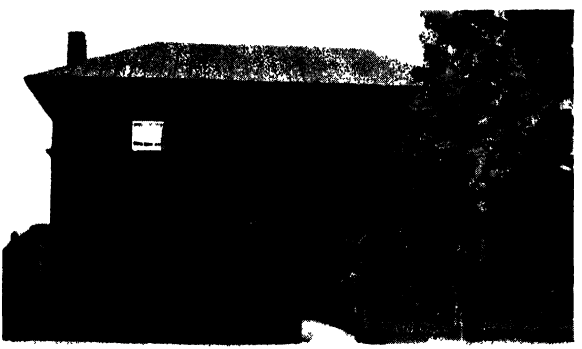
which for depth of sentiment and enduring manifestation was most impressive. Lambda members also had a lodge room of their own, their appreciation of which is expressed in their first letter to *The Delta*.



McCRUM BUILDING
In this building on Main Street in Lexington, Lambda Chapter had rooms on the second floor, where early meetings were held

"Our hall is quite neatly—even elegantly fitted up, and is the gift of our worthy Chi and founder, Brother Robinson, to whom all honor is due for his generous donation, and for the successful establishment of our Chapter. All honor is due to him, I say, for he has had to contend against difficulties, disappointments, impediments, which would have deterred a less enthusiastic spirit, and which now enhance the glory and honor of his success. To him we owe our being; and let all true 'Sigs' hold his name in the highest veneration and respect, and point to him as an example worthy of manly and zealous emulation."

Undoubtedly, the influence of the gentle, loving, faithful Robinson was chiefly responsible for the deep fraternal feeling that made the men of his Chapter so devoted to each other, and so active in the cause he loved.



THE McCRUM HOME
Lambda's Social Center in Lexington, where Robinson and Murphey roomed.

The result of Lambda's extension efforts the first year was revealed during the college year 1883-84. Epsilon at Bethany was having difficulties due to lack of support of the institution. This College, founded at Bethany, West Virginia, in 1841, was for some time under the care and control of Alexander Campbell, leader of the religious following calling themselves Christians, or Disciples of Christ. The College drew many students from Kentucky, where Alexander Campbell originally pursued his religious activities. The outlook for the College seemed

most encouraging until the Civil War interrupted progress. Then a period of retrogression followed, from which Bethany was slow in recovering. Three fraternities had existed there prior to the war, Delta Tau Delta having been founded there in 1859. Phi Kappa Psi entered that year, and Beta Theta Pi followed in 1860. All succumbed during the war, but all were revived. Phi Kappa Psi gave up the fight for existence in 1882, the year before Sigma Nu entered.



BETHANY COLLEGE
Birthplace of Epsilon, the first Chapter established by Lambda.
Reproduced from an illustration in *The Delta*.

The charter members of Epsilon, who with Louis R. Rogers, Northcutt's friend, had accepted Lambda's proffer, were Edmund F. Bocking, John W. Goodin, Charles William Lohse and John Davis Littlejohn. Their existence as a Chapter of Sigma Nu was kept secret to safeguard their organization against plotting by rivals. The Mother Chapter of Delta Tau Delta at Bethany had been disrupted, when some of its members joined in the establishment of the Chapter of Beta Theta Pi there. Hence, local fraternity traditions were not reassuring to the charter members of Epsilon. Lambda had loaned Epsilon a badge, but it was not worn openly. No initiations were made during the remainder of that inaugural year.

In the fall of 1883, only Lohse and Goodin returned. They did not understand that they had the privilege of initiating members until they received a letter from Robinson, founder of Lambda, urging continuance of the Chapter. This stirred Lohse to action. He initiated his roommate, George R. McVey, of Sedalia, Missouri, and George F. Wolf, of West Wheeling, Ohio. It was too late in the term to get other desirable men, since the Betas and Delta Taus had

exhausted the material. There were only eighty-five students at Bethany that year, sixty of whom were men. Out of about twenty non-fraternity men, only these two were acceptable to Lohse as Sigma Nu material. Robinson wrote again in December urging loyalty and effort. Lohse determined to make a bid for members at the opening of midyear term, but no new matriculates appeared.

Lohse left Bethany before commencement that year, McVey assuming the role of correspondent with Robinson and Howard. McVey and Wolf planned to return the next year, and had hopes that other members would re-enter



CHARLES W. LOHSE
One of the leading spirits of old Epsilon Chapter, who founded Pi Chapter at Lehigh University.

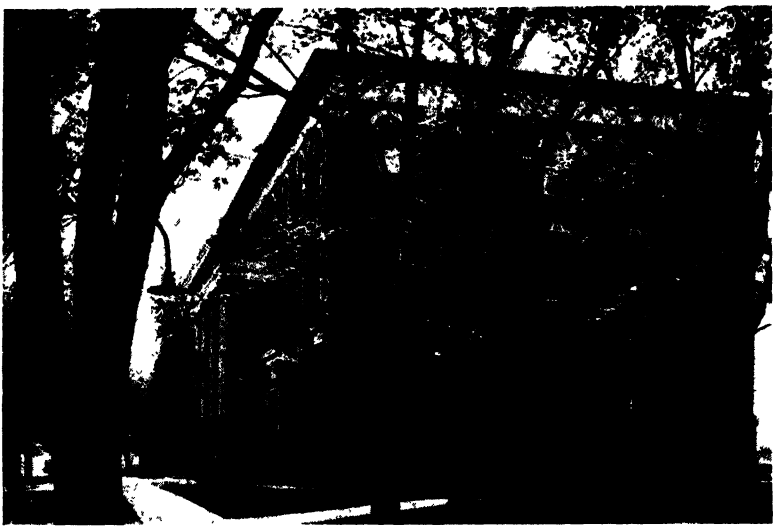


GEORGE R. McVEY
Enthusiastic member of old Epsilon Chapter, who founded Rho Chapter at University of Missouri.

Bethany. This prospect vanished when McVey lacked the necessary finances to continue his college course, and only Wolf returned the next fall. Four initiates were recorded after that date, but Epsilon did not function as a Chapter. Its founding was not in vain, however, for Lohse and McVey had received in letters from Robinson and Howard the inspiration that had made these leaders so energetic in advancing the Faith, and two important Chapter foundings, at Lehigh University and at University of Missouri, resulted from their initiation into Epsilon.

At Central University in Richmond, Kentucky, the denomination from which Alexander Campbell dissented was more successful in advancing its educational aims than Campbell's followers at Bethany had been. Central University was founded in 1874 by the Southern Synod of the Presbyterian Church, its

parent institution. Centre College, at Danville, Kentucky, having almost completely fallen into the control of the Northern Presbyterian Church. For some time Central University did not prosper. Its discontinuance was considered, but it was rescued and was brought to a plane of decided excellence. In 1901 it was merged with the parent Centre College at Danville, Kentucky, the name



CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
Kentucky shrine of Sigma Nu for many years, where Zeta Chapter was established by Lambda in 1883.

Central University being perpetuated, with the academic department being called Centre College.

The faculty of the original Central University at Richmond was hostile to fraternities until 1883. Sigma Alpha Epsilon had maintained a *sub rosa* Chapter there for a year previous to the lifting of the ban. Sigma Nu entered secretly and remained *sub rosa* for a short time. Beta Theta Pi alumni at the University organized with the object of petitioning their fraternity for a charter. Having been initiated at other places there was no need for their concealing their badges, and their effort to secure faculty approval was conducted openly. Dr. J. Lewis Howe, a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon from Amherst, then professor of chemistry at Central University, espoused the cause of fraternities, and was instrumental in having faculty restrictions removed. The Betas failed to get their charter. Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Nu profited from the Beta's initiative, and were followed later by Alpha Tau Omega, Phi Delta Theta and Delta Kappa Epsilon.

There were three of Walter Northcutt's Cynthiana, Kentucky, boyhood friends at Central University when, at the behest of Lambda, he decided to try to establish a Chapter at Richmond. M. George Y. Forman was Northcutt's

most intimate friend in the trio, and to him the invitation to join Sigma Nu was sent. This was a very fortunate circumstance, since Forman was a young man of unusual discretion and organizing ability, demonstrating later a natural talent for fraternity work that drew him into the highest councils of Sigma Nu. Forman signed and returned the oath which was preliminary to his receiving the Ritual and Constitution. Hume Clay helped Northcutt in the copying of these documents, and inasmuch as he too knew Forman, these Lambda men shared the honor of founding Zeta Chapter. The first man Forman initiated after receiving the Ritual was Lamme S. Givens, of Cynthiana. They initiated Owen L. Davis, of Paris, Kentucky; then Charles McKee, another Cynthiana boy. Samuel C. Brooks, of Paines Depot, Kentucky, was taken in before the Chapter was actually organized. These five initiates were the charter members of Zeta Chapter. Miller Ward, of Cynthiana, was taken in as the first initiate of the duly constituted Chapter.



WALTER LEE NORTHCUTT.
LAMBDA
Founder of Zeta Chapter, Central University.

The first meeting place was in a bare room on the third floor above a grocery store, where all their *sub rosa* meetings were held. Later a front room in a dwelling was rented and fitted up as a chapter meeting place. Forman wrote Zeta's first Chapter letter for *The Delta*, from which the following report is taken:

"Having been elected editor of our journal for Zeta Chapter by the direction of Lambda, towards which we have a filial kind of feeling, I will make as full a report as possible of our proceedings since the opening of college. We have had but one meeting, at which we elected the following officers: O. L. Davis, Chi; Charles McKee, Lambda Chi; Miller Ward, Tau; S. C. Brooks, Delta Kappa; M. George Y. Forman, Pi Iota; L. S. Givens, Sigma. Although we are as yet few in number, still in zeal for and devotion to our Fraternity we are a host.

"Brother Davis is the musician, and Brother Givens the wit of our Chapter. The rest of us have no distinguishing characteristics, unless it is Brother McKee's a host.

In *The Delta*, October, 1884, Forman stated in Zeta's Chapter letter:

"As mentioned in my last communication, we applied for recognition, and after some unavoidable delay we obtained it. So there now exists a friendly sort of rivalry between the fraternities at this place, but perhaps not enough to make chapter life here at Central as interesting as it should be."

In time this situation was decidedly changed, as later history of Zeta Chapter reveals. The logic of this conclusion of Forman is indicative of his exceptional sense of reasoning. His correspondence with Robinson and Howard frequently evidenced his unusual talent and foresight. In *The Delta*, May, 1884, he made the suggestion:

"It would be a good idea from the beginning for material to be collected for a history of the whole Order. This would preserve tradition, and give future members an idea of old customs."

On February 22, 1884, Zeta Chapter held its first banquet, with Mathew Hume Clay, one of its founders from Lambda, the guest of honor. The occasion is noteworthy, for it was the first time that a member of Lambda's first-year Immortals had come in personal contact with one of the Chapters to which they had imparted the spirit of Sigma Nu. Epsilon, twin sister of Zeta, was then languishing, sustained only by the stimulation of Robinson's letter, and soon to die without having had the touch of the hand of a Sigma Nu from beyond the hills around Bethany. And just four days prior to the date on which one of Robinson's disciples greeted Zeta at her first banquet celebration, the fate of Beta at the University of Virginia was written upon the records of Lambda Chapter.

When Henry W. McElwee returned to the University of Virginia, following his initiation by Gordon O'Beirne during Christmas holidays of 1882, the first convert he won for Sigma Nu was Clifton Ellis Byrd, of Williamsville, Virginia. McElwee and Byrd had been friends while attending Augusta Military Academy in Augusta County, Virginia. Byrd accepted an invitation to join in forming a Chapter, and McElwee initiated him early in 1883. These men were both in the academic department. They succeeded in pledging two students of the medical school, John Alfred Cobb, of Cannon, Texas, and Jacob Emerson Wamsley, of Beverly, West Virginia. These two men were initiated during the winter term of 1883. The four members constituted Beta Chapter that year.

In the fall of 1883 only McElwee and Wamsley returned. In the medical department during the year 1883-84, there was a member named Boardman Waine Watson, of Furman, Alabama, who had been initiated privately by C. W. Knight, an initiate of Iota during its short *sub rosa* career, when Howard College was located at Marion, Alabama. Iota had given Knight a dispensation to make this initiation, and when Watson entered the University of Virginia he was entered on Beta's roll. He came in fraternal contact with McElwee and Wamsley, and the three have been recorded as composing Beta Chapter that year. It is supposed that their meetings were informal, for no initiations were reported. The only known record made by any of the members of this refounded Beta Chapter was the following tribute to McElwee written in later years by Clifton Ellis Byrd, who became a distinguished educator in the South:

" 'Mc', with whom I was intimately acquainted while we were students at the Augusta Military Academy, near Staunton, Va., was a jovial, sunny-tempered youth who loved genial friends, innocent amusements and pretty girls.

Pure in thought, clean in character, he sought and found the best society of both sexes. Popular with students and faculty, his academy career was delightful and successful. He applied himself ardently to his studies at the University and acquitted himself with credit. He and I by self efforts paid our own ways through school. We studied intensely, for funds were limited and time precious. The members of Beta's initiates were few but congenial spirits. We did not play a very conspicuous role, but modestly fostered the spirit of fraternity, and tried to make creditable records in our classes."

Lambda Chapter's records revealed the fate of Beta, the minutes of a meeting on January 19, 1884, containing the information that "Beta is not prospering", and that "it was decided her charter should be withdrawn." In the minutes of a meeting on February 18, 1884, Lambda's Scribe reported the return of the Constitution, By-Laws, and all secret documents.



WALTER V. LANIER, KAPPA-ETA
Founder of the Mercer University Chapter, who brought a distinguished Southern name to the rolls of two Georgia Chapters.

The relapse of Beta, and the failure of Epsilon to function, were offset by Kappa Chapter's extension successes early in 1884. During the first months of Kappa's existence, when its members were seeking contact in several states, Commander Crowdus, of Alpha, urged repeatedly that they investigate Mercer University as a prospect. It is fitting that three years later their first success in establishing a Chapter fulfilled the wish of their founder. Mercer originated as a Baptist Theological Seminary at Penfield, Georgia. The name of the institution and its site honored its two most liberal benefactors, Jesse Mercer and William Penfield. Operations began with two instructors and with forty students, most of the latter laboring in the fields part of each workday to make their way.

In 1871 the city of Macon donated a site and $125,000, and Mercer University was established there. It continued under Baptist control, with its faculty members and students principally of Baptist faith. Fraternities were never opposed by faculty restriction. The first to enter was Chi Phi, a branch of the Southern order having been placed there in 1869, existing until 1880. Sigma Alpha Epsilon entered in 1870; Phi Delta Theta, 1872; Kappa Alpha (S), 1873; Kappa Sigma, 1874; Alpha Tau Omega, 1880.

Eta Chapter of Sigma Nu was established at Mercer in January, 1884, by Walter Victor Lanier, who was initiated by Kappa at Dahlonega, Georgia, shortly before the founding of *The Delta* there. Joseph P. Applewhite, of Waynesboro, Georgia, was Lanier's first initiate, and was one of the most en-

thusiastic and most zealous workers among the early members of Eta Chapter. The other charter members were Charles S. Brown, of Luraville, Florida; Nathan C. Chandler, of Milledgeville, Georgia; Samuel L. Chiles and Abbington L. Barron, of Clinton, Georgia. The Chapter organized with Lanier, Chi; Chandler, Lambda Chi; Applewhite, Gamma Sigma; Barron, Pi Iota; Brown, Tau; and Chiles, Sigma. Lanier left during the spring term to accept a teaching position, and Barron was elected Commander. Applewhite was the only graduate that year. The first meetings of Eta Chapter were held in a crude, un-



OLD COLLEGE
The first building of the University of Georgia. Erected in 1803.

furnished room in the belfry of what was then the only brick building of the University, since known as the Administration building. Prosperity was signaled when the Chapter moved from the belfry to the basement, where two rooms were furnished and attractively decorated. The fraternal spirit of Eta's early members was fine, and success was assured from the Chapter's beginning.

Kappa's second Georgia progeny was Mu Chapter at the University of Georgia, the oldest educational institution in that State, the original plans for which were formulated in 1784. The governor then appointed several trustees, and a charter was drawn up the next year. A land grant of 40,000 acres was secured from the government, from the rental of which it was planned to support the college. No further action was taken until in 1802, when the trustees selected a site, and in 1803 the first building was completed, a brick structure later used as a dormitory and known as "Old College". The progress of the University and of Athens, where it was located, was very slow at first, each having been dependent upon the other and suffering from the same misfortunes. Financial difficulty due to failure to collect land rentals was the principal trouble. The faculty then consisted of the president and three instructors, all

poorly paid. It was not until the State came to its aid with appropriations that the University of Georgia began a progressive career.

The first student secret society at the University of Georgia was a "temple" of the Mystical Seven, an organization founded at Wesleyan University, differing from Greek-letter fraternities only in name. The "temple" at Athens, installed in 1844, was driven out by anti-secret society ruling in 1859. The first Greek-letter fraternity to enter was Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1866. Chi Phi followed the next year; Kappa Alpha (S) in 1868; Phi Delta Theta and Phi Gamma Delta in 1871; Sigma Chi in 1872. In 1873 the effort by James Bonham of Alpha Chapter to establish Chapter VII of Sigma Nu at the University of Georgia resulted in the initiation of four men, the names of Robert Pike Hill and Daniel P. Hill being the only ones known. Chapter VII had not existed long when the chancellor of the University invoked a ruling prohibiting fraternities. Rivalry among the organizations had brought about vicious personal encounters that had engendered disfavor, and political activity of the fraternities was interfering with the enjoyment and the usefulness of the two literary societies, Phi Kappa and Demosthenian. Bonham was then a member of the University faculty and could not well afford to ignore the official decree. Consequently, the activities of Chapter VII were brought to an end. Most of the other fraternities continued *sub rosa* operation until a new chancellor was elected and the restrictions were removed. Opposition from the non-fraternity faction of the student body then increased, the restoration of open fraternity activity having been followed by combinations which controlled all student affairs. This coalition later was defeated by the "barbarians", as the non-fraternity element was called, and after this bitter struggle the chancellor issued an order threatening expulsion of any fraternity that engaged in student politics.

The return of Sigma Nu to Athens was brought about through George Washington Crusselle, brother of William F. Crusselle, of Kappa Chapter. George Crusselle went to Athens in the fall of 1883, influenced by alumni, with the intention of joining one of the other fraternities there. When he met the collegiate members of this fraternity, he was not impressed, and he declined to become one of them. He met and at once became companionable with Julius Rowland, of Atlanta, and upon learning that Rowland also had acquaintances in Kappa Chapter, Crusselle suggested the idea of forming a group to petition for a charter of Sigma Nu, which was mutually agreed upon. Crusselle pledged three men to join in the undertaking, Theodore D. Power, of Roswell, Georgia, Michael F. Ramsay, of Crosskeys, and Henry L. Sewell, of Marietta. Rowland matched this success by pledging William P. Williams, of Waycross, James W. O'Kelley, of Athens, and John C. Carraway, of Smithville. George H. Williamson, of Watkinsville, and Thomas L. Eberhardt, of Atlanta, were pledged before the petition was sent to Kappa Chapter.

Alert for such opportunities, the Dahlonega Sigma Nus sent word to Crusselle to hold the group together until a member could be sent down to initiate them. James A. Wardlaw was selected for this responsibility. He went to Athens early in the year 1884, and conferred the Ritual upon the ten petition-

ers who became the charter members of Mu Chapter. The preliminary meetings of the petitioners were held in Crusselle's room in one of the dormitories. After initiation of the charter members, the meetings of Mu Chapter that year were held on frequent evenings in the class room of Professor Woodfin, a friend of the group. The first officers of Mu Chapter were Eberhardt, Chi; Crusselle, Lambda; Rowland, Gamma; Williams, Pi; Carraway, Tau; O'Kelley, Sigma; and Power, Delta Kappa. Mu's first initiates were John B. Britt, of Wideman, South Carolina, and Thomas J. Britt, of Sandover, South Carolina. Rowland was one of the most active spirits in the Chapter, and was one of the most energetic in loyalty after being graduated that year. Eberhardt, who had been Commander and a popular leader, also was graduated in the spring of 1884. George Crusselle was induced by his family to enter North Georgia College at Dahlonega the next fall because of his brother's faculty connection there. He affiliated with Kappa and was graduated from North Georgia College. The loss of these men was keenly felt at the beginning of Mu Chapter's second year, but the groundwork had been well laid, and Mu continued to prosper.

The tidings of Kappa's successful extension efforts in Georgia were received with great delight by Robinson, enthusiastic leader of Lambda Chapter. For months he had been writing to members of the Fraternity urging the need of a meeting of alumni and chapter representatives, a convention of delegates authorized to remodel the Constitution, to revise procedure and to co-ordinate effort. He had been encouraged in this idea by Lambda's achievements during her first year, when Beta was revived and when Epsilon and Zeta were founded. With Alpha, Kappa and Lambda this made six living Chapters to support a convention. Upon Robinson's return to Washington and Lee University in the fall of 1883, he applied himself diligently to the task of creating a sentiment for his proposal. The response from alumni was very gratifying, Robinson's letters awakening in them the latent loyalty that had become dormant through lack of this very contact which he was advocating.

Alpha Chapter was heartily in accord with the convention plan, and Kappa Chapter lent support with characteristic enthusiasm. Robinson assumed the title of General Secretary, which Yeatman, of Alpha, had relinquished upon graduation. Every possible source of information was penetrated in an endeavor to trace members of defunct Chapters, and others whose addresses were unknown. In this quest Robinson retrieved valuable historical information as well as rejuvenating the interest of the alumni. For the first time since Founder Hopkins left Lexington, he was brought into touch with the activities of the Fraternity, his letter to Robinson delineating the circumstances of the founding of Sigma Nu, giving a thrill of inspiration to all who read it in *The Delta*. Traditions that were too precious to be allowed to perish were disclosed by Robinson, and were transmitted through his unceasing flow of letters to the alumni and to the Chapters. The status of the *sub rosa* Theta Chapter at the University of Alabama became known, and the history of the rise and fall of Iota at Howard College was revealed for the first time.

The greatest blow to Robinson's hopes was the collapse of Beta Chapter, revived at the University of Virginia, and the hopeless plight of Epsilon at Beth-

any College. He worked heroically to save these offshoots of Lambda which had incited his convention effort, but in vain. Hence it was that the good tidings of two new Chapters in Georgia brought great joy, and quickened the decision to make definite plans for the first convention. Robinson kept Howard advised of the results of his labors. The two co-ordinated in working out the preliminaries, and in preparing recommendations to be presented to the convention.

In this co-operation between these leaders of Lambda and Kappa, accord and efficiency were furthered by the residence in Dahlonega of the able and intellectual William A. Charters, one of Robinson's aids in the founding of the Washington and Lee Chapter. Charters began his practice of law at Dahlonega, forming partnership with the Hon. William P. Price, ex-congressman, who had been instrumental in securing from the Government the Mint building

The pleasure of your company
is requested at the
Sigma Nu Convention
on the 9th and 10th of July, 1884,
beginning at ten a. m.
in Nashville, Tenn.

FORMAL INVITATION TO THE FIRST CONVENTION

in which North Georgia College had been established. Charters later married a daughter of his distinguished law partner, and thus were linked two families which gave Sigma Nu sons to Kappa Chapter. Charters became secretary of the Board of Trustees of North Georgia College, of which board his law partner was president, and Dr. N. F. Howard, father of John Alexander Howard, was vice president. This personal contact, created through Charters, strengthened the bond between Kappa and Lambda, a chapter mutuality which began as a consequence of consecutive foundings by direct action of Alpha, and which continued in contemporaneous history that paralleled in many respects.

Lambda Chapter became the clearing-house of preconvention plans, the responsibility resting principally upon Robinson. Samuel V. Fulkerson, Commander of Alpha, was chairman of the Committee on Invitation. But the correspondence in this connection was performed by the indefatigable Robinson. A very elaborate souvenir invitation was sent out to all members, a four-page

folder printed on heavy die paper, on the front of which was an ornate engraving of symbolism suggested by John Howard. This design was surrounded by a field of clouds, across the top of which five stars were arched. These Howard suggested to signify the Founders, then erroneously believed to have included



ISAAC POITEVINT ROBINSON, LAMBDA
Father of the First Convention of Sigma Nu.

that number instead of three, as later disclosed by Founder Hopkins. Under this arch of stars were clasped two hands in token of friendship. Below this was an excellent reproduction of the Sigma Nu badge, supported by hands of two angelic figures, in the other hand of one a trumpet, the figure opposite holding aloft a sword. Below the badge were two crossed swords about which a serpent was entwined. The badge and swords were conspicuous in a field of light rays radiating from the lamp of knowledge which rested at the bottom of the design on two books, one representing the Bible, the other the Constitution. To the left of the center of the engraving was a scroll to signify a

charter, across this a quill pen, and on the scroll the date of founding, 1869. On the opposite side of the center of the design was a shield denoting strength, with crossed keys signifying secrecy, and on this shield was the year of the convention, 1884. The second and fourth pages were blank. On the third page were printed the names of those selected to make the formal speeches, and the members of the Invitation Committee. Accompanying this souvenir, in an envelope bearing on its clasp an engraved monogram of Sigma Nu, was the formal invitation.

The receipt of this elaborate announcement must have heightened respect for Sigma Nu among the members. Robinson, man of many sobriquets, might also be called the First Propagandist. A more fitting appellation was bestowed upon him by Founder Hopkins in later years, when, citing the misleading meaning of the oft-used term, the Second Founder of Sigma Nu, he referred to Robinson instead as the Second Inspirationist. This expression of appreciation the modest Robinson cherished most of all. But greater glory than these fanciful designations can imply is written in the record of the First Convention. Regardless of the part performed by others in making suggestions and recommendations, this achievement will stand forever as testimonial to Robinson's devotion to Sigma Nu, tribute to his unexcelled zeal when laboring for this beloved cause.



ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

J. F HOPKINS, ARK.

ORATOR.

G. M. NAPIER, GA.

HISTORIAN.

G. O'BEIRNE, W. VA.

COMMITTEE ON INVITATION.

S V FULKERSON, CHAIRMAN, VA.

J P. APPLEWHITE, GA.	A L. BARRON, GA.
J. H. WINSTON, TENN.	G. R. MCVEY, MO.
J. W. BOYD, GA.	J. C. CARAWAY, GA.
R. H. STICKNEY, JR., ALA.	W. L. MARTIN, KY.
A. H. FITZGERALD, VA.	L. L. DEAN, ALA.
J. A. WARDLOW, GA.	J. N. ROWLAND, GA.
O. L. DAVIS, KY.	J. T. HOWARD, TEXAS.
I. P. ROBINSON, LA.	C. W. MURPHEY, N. C.

SOUVENIR OF SIGMA NU'S FIRST CONVENTION

Cover design and facsimile reproduction of list of assignments printed inside the formal announcement.

CHAPTER XI

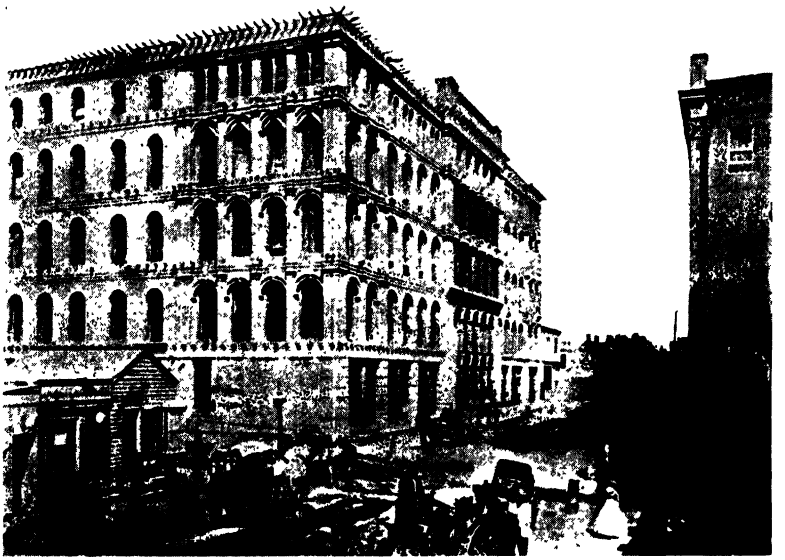
An Epoch Inaugurated

TO enter abruptly upon the report of proceedings of the First Convention of Sigma Nu without due deliberation upon its significant and romantic side-lights would be sacrilege. A feeling of reverence is inspired by appreciation of the sentiments and attendant circumstances involved in this memorable event. The setting itself was appropriate, the historic old Maxwell House at Nashville, Tennessee, having been selected as the meeting place. In such surroundings the courtly Robinson had a background befitting his genteel manners. For never was one more naturally endowed with becoming grace and with instinct for the conventions of society than was this debonair son of Louisiana. How like him it was to extend with formality the convention call—"The pleasure of your company is requested * * * at ten A. M." Robinson's companion from Lexington was the Chesterfieldian Samuel Vance Fulkerson, erstwhile lieutenant of Company A, V. M. I. Cadets, leader of the final German the previous week, when he was graduated and became an ex-Commander of Alpha Chapter. In the appearance of this pair was reflected the social tone of Lexington.

In striking contrast was the coming of John Alexander Howard from Dahlonega, a man as plain as the hills about that town, but as genuine as the gold beneath. Unversed in etiquette, perhaps, but blessed with simple cordiality, he won his way without the affectations of society, and was loved for his wholesome fellowship. Accompanying Howard was the greatly esteemed George M. Napier, intellectual leader of Kappa's charter members, and an intense devotee of Sigma Nu. What a thrill of fraternal feeling must have been felt by Robinson and Howard when they met for the first time! The initiation of these two men had been coincident with the revival of the Fraternity, and they had become the mainstays in its determined advance. This meeting of the Founder of *The Delta* and the Father of the First Convention was one of the dramatic moments in the history of the Fraternity. It marked the evolution of Sigma Nu from a federation of isolated units to an integrated organization soon to manifest its broader sphere of influence.

Prophetic of this destiny was the evidence of renewed activity at the University of Alabama, where for several years Theta Chapter had maintained a *sub rosa* existence, so obscured that it was believed to be entirely dormant. Robinson's convention agitation had aroused Theta's members to new resolves, with the result that they sent two representatives to the meeting. The elder of these delegates was Daniel W. Langton, initiate of Theta's early *sub rosa*

years, whose name in early publications of the Fraternity is recorded as Langdon, which form of spelling later he changed. The other delegate from Theta, Louis L. Dean, had been made a member of Sigma Nu but eighteen days prior to the convention date. The fifth Chapter to be represented was Zeta, Central University, George Forman arriving from Kentucky after the first session, but in time to lend his unusual talents to the success of the convention.



MAXWELL HOUSE
Historic hostelry at Nashville, Tennessee, where First Convention of Sigma Nu was held in 1884.

When the appointed hour of "ten A. M." arrived, only six of these delegates were present. Postponement of the opening session was agreed upon to await the coming of Jacob T. Barron, from Columbia, South Carolina. Barron had been a leader of early Alpha, having served as Commander during the college year 1874-75. His abiding interest in the Fraternity had been maintained in fellowship with Edward R. Arthur, contemporary of the Founders and author of the original Constitution. The two associates were prominent attorneys in the South Carolina capital. With a revision of the Constitution in prospect, Barron had promised to attend the convention. The younger delegates lacked experience in parliamentary procedure, and decided to await Barron's evening arrival, and to elect him to preside. The day of fellowship contributed greatly to the benefits of the meeting. This was the first time that Robinson and Fulkerson had met members of Sigma Nu initiated outside of Lexington. Howard and Napier had come in personal contact with only one member outside of Kappa's circle. Langton and Dean knew only Alabama Sigma Nus, and Forman had met none but Kentucky Knights. Howard, Napier and Forman had

been self-initiated charter members of their respective Chapters, the secret work having been communicated to them by mail. The inspiration of these first interchapter handclasps cannot be conveyed in words, and the influence of this first mingling of members of other Chapters is beyond estimation.

The formal proceedings of the First Convention are recorded in the fourth number of the second volume of *The Delta*. The meeting was held in Langton's room at the Maxwell House. Robinson acted as temporary chairman, since both Regent Wade and Vice Regent Imboden were absent. Nominations for a permanent chairman were requested, and Jacob T. Barron, Alpha '75, was unanimously elected. The ability of Daniel W. Langton had been quickly observed by the delegates, and he was made the convention secretary. Napier and Robinson were appointed a committee on credentials, after which Barron requested permission to vacate the chair, and Fulkerson was called to preside *pro tempore*. This move Barron perceived as necessary for him to expedite proceedings, the others lacking floor initiative. The report of the committee on credentials brought division over the number of votes to be allowed a proxy. Howard had proxy authority to represent Mu Chapter, University of Georgia. Barron harmonized the controversy with a resolution granting two votes to each Chapter, whether represented in person or by proxy. With the convention organized, the reading of the Regent's address followed.

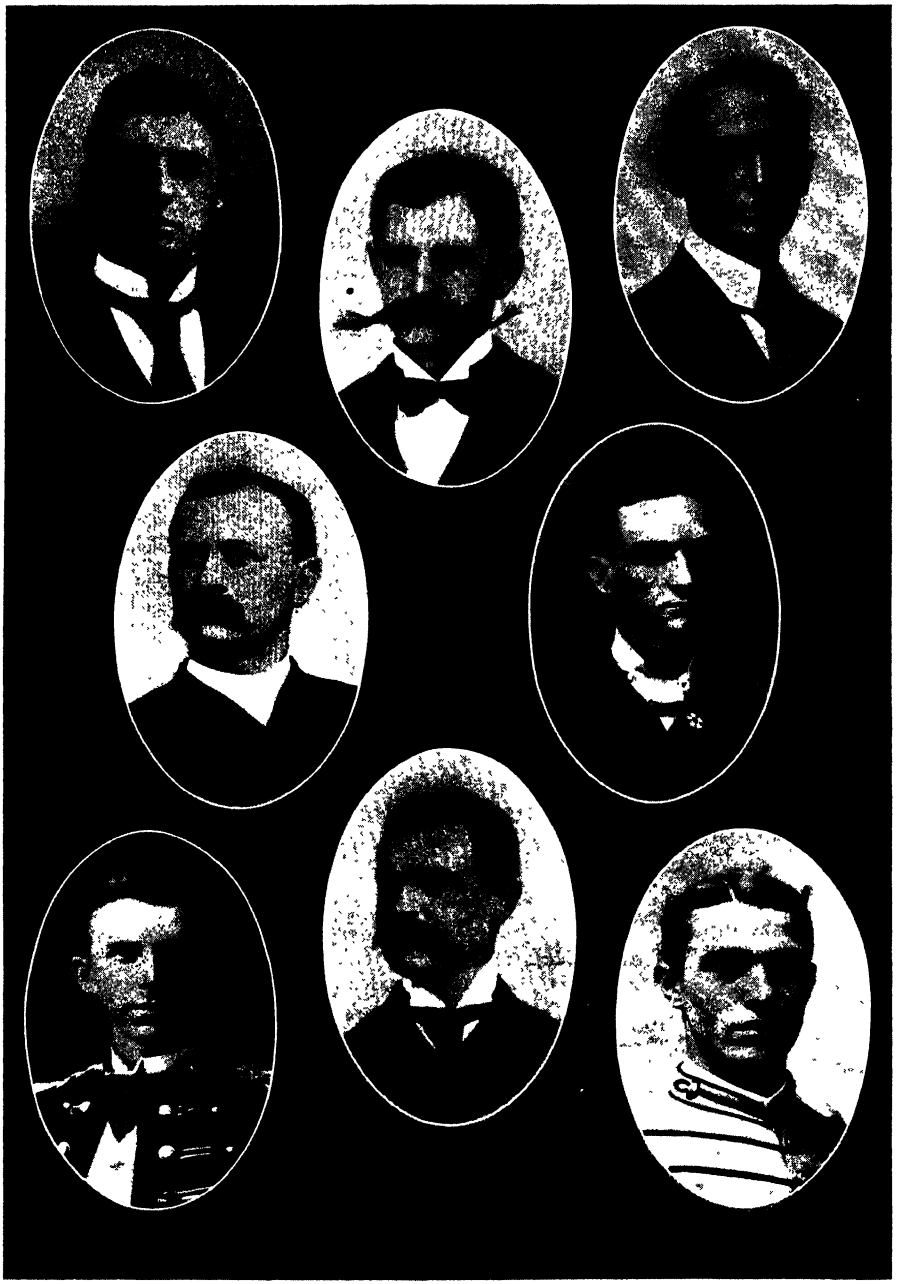
THE REGENT'S ADDRESS TO THE FIRST CONVENTION

Savannah, Ga., July 5th, 1884.

Brothers of the Sigma Nu:

I had fully intended to be with you in person, but today business engagements have arisen which prevent all hopes of my attendance. How gratified I am that our convention has finally become a reality; the long talk has accomplished the results of bringing the members together in Nashville. The purposes for holding the Convention are numerous. Our wishes for one gradually changed into a necessity, and this meeting will extend the high aims of the Order, and give the true American impetus of progress.

Called into existence during the decade which is the eventful epoch of United States history, the Sigma Nu was one of the many evidences of sterling worth the Southern people developed in their adversity. At a time when the men and women of the South longed for an early death as the only happy future for their children, the Sigma Nu faced the emergency, determined to succeed. The rope of resistance and resource, which had sounded the tocsin of war, was broken, and the bell of despair was tolling the dirge of death. In the midst of chaos and destruction, within hearing of the battle cry of Newmarket, over the consecrated soil of Virginia, the Sigma Nu, like a star of promise, shone out near the Southern Cross. With the aim to form a Brotherhood to perpetuate and encourage honorable gentlemen, studious workers, sworn friends and prosperous citizens, the Sigma Nu began its work. At its inception hope and honor was its roadbed, and laid with the rails of energy and worth, it was to lead its members through a happy and respected life. Enrolling members at a time when the character is malleable, the Sigma Nu shields her own from the



THE FIRST CONVENTION

Delegates who attended this inaugural convocation held at Nashville, Tenn., July 9-10, 1884; 1, Samuel V. Fulkerson, Alpha; 2, John Alexander Howard, Kappa, Founder of *The Delta*; 3, M. George Y. Forman, Zeta; 4, Jacob T. Barron, Alpha, presiding officer; 5, Isaac P. Robinson, Lambda, Father of the First Convention; 6, George M. Napier, Kappa; 7, Daniel W. Langton, Theta, convention secretary; 8, Louis L. Dean, Theta.

attacks of worthlessness, as well as the inroads of dishonesty. The aim of the Order is to weed out the bad and propagate the good qualities in her members. The Sigma Nu brings the best of influences to bear on a man when he is most in need of them. All that is praiseworthy, all that is elevating, all that is noble, are objects of her care.

Quite distinct on the records of my memory lies the first impression of Sigma Nu life. Members of Alpha, do you remember your first week at the V. M. I.? Transplanted from the clime of genial home, where you were indulged and petted in the whims of boyhood, to the V. M. I. Everyone there seems to be your enemy, except those in the same plight as yourself; no one appears to care for you; all your surroundings are changed. You do not recognize yourself. A greater change could not occur. Your present course is as different from your former one as is the course of the Hudson and the St. Johns. Your former course, like the St. Johns, was running over an even and soft bed, through the orange groves and flower gardens of home influence and parental care. Now, like the highlands of the Hudson, the highlands of unfriendliness, the boulders of criticism and the hidden reefs of mysterious example, threaten to founder the craft, cut loose from the haven of home. At this moment a pilot from the Sigma Nu hails you, and you are safe.

When I joined, Shewmake, Keitt and Holloway were members of prominence. The first had pursued the arduous course at the V. M. I. without one register against him; the second held the highest military office; and the third had a brain which allowed no one to outstrip him. These were the men who asked me to join. Did I stop to ask how many Chapters they could count? No! Then, as now, I felt it better to possess one true friend than a host of middling ones. So had it been through all her history—careful of quality, regardless of quantity. Who with such precedents would let his courage flag?

Next year adverse circumstances deprived us of our best men. Some had graduated; others did not return. Five of us alone to battle with eight or ten other fraternities, who hated us for our uninterrupted success. Now they were determined to crush us out. We five met together, and on the Bible made an oath to devote a month exclusively to finding out new cadets worthy to wear our badge and reflect credit on her. At the end of a month the best recruits in the Corps were Sigma Nus, in spite of the most insidious enmity of the other Greeks. The following year the Sigma Nu marched up and claimed her place—first—having fifteen members of picked timber. The year after I left, the fraternities which had seemed most determined to crush us out numbered but two. So energy and discretion, the lever of success, the motive power of stability, tided over the threatening period in our history.

After I left Virginia the Order advanced rapidly, as was shown by the numerous charters signed. This meeting today is another evidence of what is being accomplished. The Sigma Nu is now spread over a considerable area; Chapters are springing up in many of the best colleges in our land, but do not abate one iota of your vigor. The Sigma Nu must be permanent at every first-class university in the land. The Convention is for the interchange of ideas. Let every one express his views without hesitancy. Should not some active

steps be taken to secure recognition at Tuscaloosa? Get the co-operation of every Sigma Nu graduate. The Order was as prominent there as at the V. M. I. Truly, then, its graduates are men of influence, who could restore the old regime. After Theta's banishment from Tuscaloosa, communication was completely interrupted. Alpha could hear nothing from her. Chance placed me in communication with Brother T. W. Clark, of Theta, and many letters passed between us; his are among the archives of Alpha, relating the marvelous growth of Theta's settlement, which could only occur where there are minds of human gold and silver. Brother Clark was an ardent Sigma Nu, whose qualities, influence and example were sufficient to rally men of endowments and men of principle. Like many other brilliant young men, eternity wished him in a higher sphere, and called him from his human home to his heritage above.



WILLIAM HAMPTON WADE, ALPHA
Third Regent of Sigma Nu, 1882-84.

Closer communication should be kept up between the Chapters. Liberal encouragement should be given *The Delta*. Every Sigma Nu should subscribe, and place his business card therein, and patronize a Sigma Nu in preference to any other person. Circular letters should be sent to every member each summer, asking if any worthy young men are going from their place to college to let the Order know about it. The Order is of the utmost practical importance from college to old age. Let it spread and envelop the land—good influences should not be confined.

Allow me to thank you for the great honor conferred two years ago in selecting me Regent. To be the highest officer in the Sigma Nu is an unusual distinction, and I have tried to discharge my duties as far as lay in the power of one who is thoroughly imbued with the spirit and fully persuaded of its glorious future. I think it time to elect my successor. In tendering my resignation as Regent I assure you of my deepest interest in our welfare, and in whatever way my feelings toward the Sigma Nu, collectively or individually, can be tested, put me to the test. Each member should be a sentinel, prepared to march on guard at whatever post he is needed. Then will the Sigma Nu become powerful and respected.

Yours in Sigma Nu Bonds,
W. H. WADE.

Upon resuming the chair, according to the minutes, "Brother Barron made some exceedingly forcible and appropriate remarks relative to the responsibility

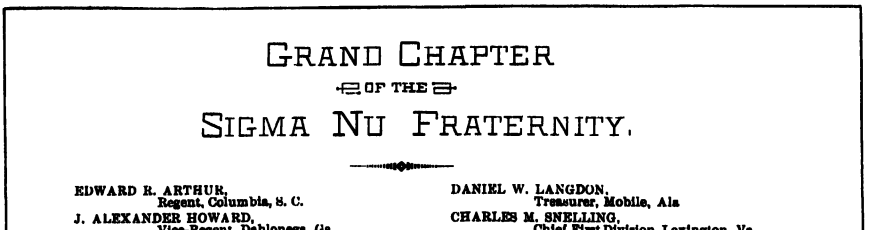
devolving upon this First Convention, and advising it to proceed with more than ordinary caution and deliberation." Motion followed to appoint a committee on Constitution and Ritual, the chair naming Robinson chairman, with Howard and Napier the other members. For several months both Howard and Robinson had been at work on revisions to be presented, the principal changes having had mutual consideration, so that the work of this committee was a final approval of their joint efforts. The Constitution was considered section by section the second day of the Convention. It was adopted with little opposition, except in the matter of making compulsory the purchase of a badge within one year after initiation. Barron moved to amend by inserting "if able", but Robinson protested, and the compromise clause stipulated "unless excused from so doing by his Chapter".

The changes made in the Ritual were mainly elaborations of the original Hopkins draft that had been suggested by John Howard. Included were additions to the dialogue; the adoption of a "grip", which Lambda Chapter had originated; and signs of recognition conceived by Howard. The changes in the Constitution were such as were necessary to make it conform to the enlarged activities of the Order. The Fraternity was divided into three Divisions, as follows: I, Virginia and West Virginia; II, Alabama, Kentucky and Kansas; III, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina. The following Division Chiefs were named: I, Charles M. Snelling, Alpha; II, M. George Y. Forman, Zeta; III, Joseph P. Applegate, Eta. Associate Editors of *The Delta* named for each Division were: I, Jacob T. Barron; II, R. Emmett Pettus; III, George M. Napier.



EDWARD R. ARTHUR, ALPHA
Fourth Regent of Sigma Nu, 1884-86.

Upon invitation by George Forman, Lexington, Kentucky, was selected as the next meeting place in August, 1886. Nominations for Regent brought from Louis Dean the popular expression of the delegates that Barron be elected. To this proposal Barron objected, nominating instead his fellowtownsman, Edward R. Arthur, whose election followed. For Vice Regent, Barron nominated John Alexander Howard, who was unanimously elected to that office. Howard was also formally chosen Editor of *The Delta*, which office he had created and filled on his own responsibility. Robinson was elected General Secretary and Langton, Grand Treasurer. The four Grand Officers and the Division Chiefs then composed what was called the "Grand Chapter", the designation later given national conventions.


GRAND CHAPTER
OF THE
SIGMA NU FRATERNITY.

EDWARD R. ARTHUR, Regent, Columbia, S. C.
J. ALEXANDER HOWARD, Vice-Regent, Dahlonega, Ga.
ISAAC P. ROBINSON, General Secretary, Lexington, Va.
DANIEL W. LANGDON, Treasurer, Mobile, Ala
CHARLES M. SNELLING, Chief First Division, Lexington, Va.
M. GEORGE Y. FORMAN, Chief Second Division, Richmond, Ky.
JOSEPH P. APPLEWHITE, Chief Third Division, Waynesboro, Ga.

FIRST OFFICIAL STATIONERY
From a letter-head in use following the meeting of the First Convention. The Grand Officers at that time were designated as the Grand Chapter.

The benefits ensuing from the First Convention always should be regarded as the result of Robinson's initiative and energy. Jacob T. Barron ever should be remembered as the guiding spirit and counselor, without whose inspiration and direction the proceedings would have evidenced the lack of an elder leader. Although in attendance this meeting did not measure up to the hopes of its sponsors, in personnel it was superb. It was an occasion for serious effort, not for pastime. The Convention was ideally constituted to serve its purpose. It is noteworthy that five of the eight delegates became Grand Officers in the Fraternity, and that the other three participated in Chapter foundings or in important revivals.

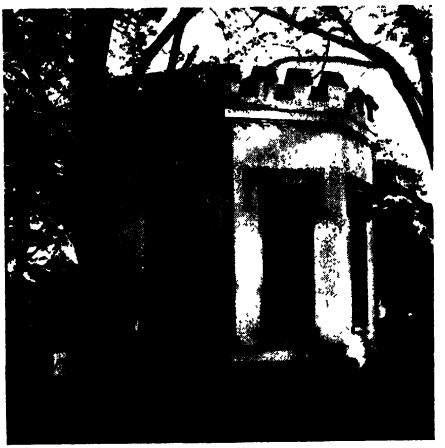
Peculiarly associated with the success of this First Convention, developments at the University of Alabama connected the fortunes of Theta Chapter intimately with the history of this period. Robinson's convention publicity was naturally stimulating to every source of Sigma Nu interest, and undoubtedly accelerated activities already begun in Alabama. Certainly, the convention had a quickening influence on the resolves of Daniel W. Langton, who was primarily responsible for developments there.

The history of Theta Chapter embraces one of several spectacular periods in the history of the University of Alabama. The University was projected in 1819, when Alabama was admitted to the Union, 40,000 acres of land having then been ceded for a "seminary of learning". In 1821, the University of Alabama was incorporated. It was not until 1831 that it was actually established at Tuscaloosa, then the capital of the State. The nearby river was named by the Indians "Tuskaloosa", meaning "Black Warrior", honoring a famous chief whom tradition indicates was of such gigantic proportions that, riding on the largest mount, his feet touched the ground. The river is now known as the Black Warrior. The wide streets of Tuscaloosa are lined with large oaks, from which it has become known as the Druid City, or the City of Oaks.

The University of Alabama was the first Southern institution to attract the early fraternities of eastern origin. In 1847, a Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon was established there through the influence of one of its founders and another member, the author of its constitution, both residents of the State. Alpha

Delta Phi followed four years later. In 1855, Phi Alpha, local, was organized. It lasted but a short time, some of its members accepting a charter from Phi Gamma Delta that year. The others, changing the ritual and name, but retaining the principal features of the badge, became the founders of Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1856.

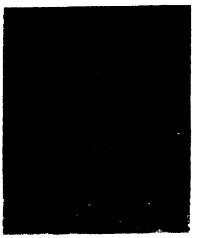
In the meantime, fraternity opposition had been growing during a period of serious discontent marked by riot and revolt. The trouble began over the expelling of a student for crying "Wolf", a forbidden warning call indicating approach of a faculty member. Following a riot over the affair, one-third of the students were expelled. Unrest continued, and in 1857 antifraternity laws were passed. Disintegration of the student body resulted. In an effort to overcome defections, the scholarship requirement was reduced to fifty per cent, then to twenty-five per cent. In 1860, military system was established to improve discipline. Near the close of the Civil War. Federal troops burned the buildings of the University, and sessions were not again resumed until in 1869.



ROUND HOUSE, UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
The only structure left standing after the Federal raid.

Fraternities which had operated *sub rosa* after the ban was decreed were not revived until several years after the war. Cliques sprang up instead, and became very powerful, contesting for military offices and literary society honors. One of these political organizations was built up by a member of Alpha Gamma, who previously had attended an institution where a chapter of that defunct Southern fraternity had existed. Secretly, a chapter was established at the University of Alabama. Operating *sub rosa* and without opposition, it became a dominating power in student activities.

The situation was similar to that at Virginia Military Institute when Sigma Nu was founded. Those who opposed the rule of Alpha Gamma felt the force of its power. The organization controlled the principal offices in the Cadet Corps, and attempted to dominate literary society offices as well. There it encountered the determined will of Thomas Walker Clark, of Salem, Alabama, one of the most popular students and an intellectual leader. With one member of Alpha Gamma sitting as judge, and another acting as prosecuting attorney, Clark was expelled from the Philomathic Literary Society for refusing to pay a fine. The unwarranted charge against Clark was an instance of the methods of this fraternity in seeking to discredit those who resisted its rule. Clark was reinstated at a regular meeting, which was attended by several members who had been absent









CHARTER MEMBERS OF THETA CHAPTER, UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
1, Thomas W. Clark; 2, Claiborne C. Myers; 3, Abner L. Neal; 4, Sumner B. Foster
5, Benjamin L. Wyman; 6, George H. Chadwick; 7, Preston B. Love.

from the special meeting. Only members of Alpha Gamma voted against him. This forced the issue, and Clark accepted the challenge.

At that time, Oscar E. Smith, a resident of Clark's home town of Selma, Alabama, was a member of Alpha Chapter of Sigma Nu. He secured a dispensation to establish Chapter VII at the University of Alabama, and initiated Clark during the holidays of 1873-74. Armed with this authority to organize a secret fraternity, with which he could oppose Alpha Gamma on even terms, Clark returned to the University in January, 1874, to begin his conquest. There were then about one hundred and fifty students, all living in Woods Hall, the only building that then had been erected. Abundant fraternity material was available, and Clark had no difficulty in securing the high type of students he desired to have associated with him. He first pledged his roommate, Benjamin L. Wyman. Clark invited only young men of sterling character and proven scholastic ability. Considered the brightest man in his class, naturally he attracted students of a high type. Six associates were selected to become charter members with him, the following records indicating their caliber:

Benjamin L. Wyman, Sophomore Medalist, Philomathic Debater, 1874-75; Philomathic Orator, 1875-76; Editor, *University Monthly*, 1875-76; First Lieutenant, Co. A, 1874-75; Captain, Co. A, 1875-76; Valedictorian of graduating class of 1876.

Claiborne C. Myers, Junior Orator; Debater, Erosophic Literary Society, 1874-75; A. B., 1875; LL. B., 1876.

Abner L. Neal, Junior Orator; LL. B., 1876.

Sumner B. Foster, Junior Orator; Intermediate Speaker, 1874-75; Second Lieutenant, 1874-75; distinguished student for four years; A. B., 1875; LL. B., 1876.

George H. Chadwick, Sophomore Speaker; Philomathic Debater, 1875-76; Commencement Orator, 1875-76; Adjutant, 1875-76.

Preston B. Love, Sophomore Medalist; Senior Intermediate Orator; Senior Commencement Orator; A. B. and LL. B., 1876.

The record of Thomas W. Clark marked him without question the outstanding leader of his time. A tribute paid to him by the University of Alabama *Monthly*, several years after his graduation, thus bore testimony to this fact:

"He was looked upon as the brightest man in his class, and won his way to the head of the intellectual with the same easy grace that carried him to the summit of social life of the institution. His bright record has been amongst the college traditions ever since he left the walls."

Clark was Sophomore Medalist; Intermediate Speaker; Junior Speaker; and in his Senior year was Orator of the Philomathic Literary Society. He won the Commencement Oration Prize; was Adjutant of the Cadet Corps; Editor of the *University Monthly*, which he had helped establish; was Valedictorian in the class of 1875, receiving A. M. degree that year, and LL. B. the next year when he returned to become assistant professor of Chemistry, and was made Secretary of the Faculty.

These records of its charter members are the foundation stones upon which Theta Chapter was built. During the first year, eight initiates with similar

Four of the seven charter members of Theta: Clark, Myers, Neal and Foster, were graduated in the spring of 1875. All these graduates returned the next year for the course in law, and the chapter membership was kept intact. Undoubtedly, fraternity associations influenced this unusual good fortune. Wyman was a senior, and was made Commander for the year 1875-76, following Clark also as Editor of the *University Monthly*, and in the winning of Valedictorian honors. Pettus was Commander the third year, assuming the responsibility of the Chapter then bereft of Clark's leadership. During those

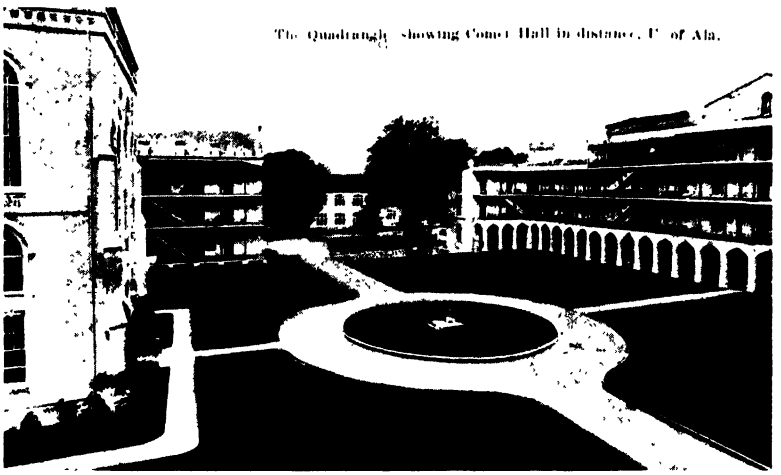


WOODS HALL
First building erected after the Civil War raid, when the University of Alabama was destroyed. This building, erected in 1871, was used as barracks where early members of Theta Chapter roomed.

two years, several prominent names were added to Theta's roll, men who continued the Chapter's intellectual prestige, winning honors also in military activities.

Among the initiates of that time were Charles R. McCall, A. B. '78, A. M. '79, who for the third successive year captured for Sigma Nu the Editorship of the *University Monthly* and Valedictorian honors; Chappell Cory, A. B. '78, LL. B. '79, Editor of the *University Monthly* in 1879, and Commencement Orator; Henry D. Clayton, A. B. '77, LL. B. '78, one of the most renowned of Theta's illustrious alumni, who represented Alabama in Congress, then became a Federal judge; Robert E. Lee Hudson, a Chapter founder; and Samuel E. Pegues, destined to national fame for distinguished official service in Sigma Nu. William W. Woodward, initiated in 1876, was one of the most enthusiastic members of Theta during that period. Josiah D. Battle and Daniel W. McCall, also initiated in 1876, were commencement orators of their respective classes. All these notables were initiated *sub rosa*, warnings of enforcement of the antifraternity law having sent the fraternities under cover. Other Greek-letter societies had secretly made their way into this promising field where Sigma Nu had prospered so wonderfully, and this increased rivalry revived objectionable practices and caused the growing disfavor.

Phi Gamma Delta, whose *sub rosa* career had been interrupted by the Civil War, resumed secret activity in 1872, and after Sigma Nu's appearance operated more openly. In 1876, Sigma Chi was believed to have begun *sub rosa* operations by initiating through their Chapter at Southern University, Greensboro, Alabama. In 1877 Phi Delta Theta made an abortive attempt to establish a chapter, but after initiating six members returned the charter. Later another effort was made by Phi Delta Theta to institute a *sub rosa* Chapter, but of the four proposed charter members one joined that fraternity at another



THE QUADRANGLE, UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
Woods Hall, on the right, was the only one of these buildings erected when Theta Chapter was established.

place, one joined another fraternity at the University of Alabama, the other two remaining unattached.

This Hellenic activity, increasing in the face of faculty disfavor, aggravated the growing feeling against fraternities. As usual, rivalry under cover was more bitter and more malicious than open competition. A tragic encounter in February, 1878, resulted in the killing of one cadet by another on one of the stoops of the barracks. The affair was not believed to have been the direct result of fraternity rivalry, but the Greek-letter societies became involved in the subsequent criticism of conditions at the University. The president, a man of great esteem, but weak in discipline, was called upon to resign, and the Board of Trustees ordered strict enforcement of antifraternity laws. A written pledge thereafter was required from each matriculate not to join nor attend meetings of any college secret organization while attending the University. The category in which fraternity membership was placed is evidenced in the text of the following provision published in the University catalogue:

"Each member, when he enters the University, shall deliver to the president all arms and deadly weapons of every description which may be in his

possession, and shall subscribe, in a book to be kept for that purpose, to a matriculation pledge promising not to become a member of a secret fraternity while attending the University."

During the next college year, the members of Theta Chapter who returned to the University agreed that the matriculation pledge did not control the conduct of students during vacation. Although no meetings could be held, candidates were selected and were pledged for initiation during summer vacation. Very close associations were formed in this way, while members who had been initiated prior to the edict remained at the University. Lack of organization and consequent lack of experience limited the interest and activity of most of the vacation initiates, and the fortunes of the Chapter soon waned. It was during this period that correspondence with Alpha Chapter ceased, and Theta was supposed to have become entirely defunct.

Prior to this misfortune, Theta's record had been the pride of the Mother Chapter. At the expiration of the second five-year term of Regent Riley and Vice Regent Hopkins, two of the Founders of Sigma Nu, Theta was the only other Chapter active, and was consulted by Alpha about the election of Grand Officers. Thomas W. Clark's name was suggested for one of the offices. By agreement between Alpha and Theta, Tazwell Ellett, of Richmond, Virginia, Alpha initiate of 1872, was named Regent, and Thomas W. Clark, Theta's founder, was chosen Vice Regent. Clark accepted, but Ellett declined on account of inability to give proper attention to the duties of the office. The Vice Regent having qualified, he was advanced to fill the vacancy, and thus Thomas W. Clark became the second Regent of Sigma Nu. It was then that Muscoe L. Spotswood, Alpha, contemporary of the Founders, was elected Vice Regent to succeed Clark.

The critical plight of Theta, after the enforcement of antifraternity laws at the University of Alabama, was coincident in time with the period of low ebb in Alpha's decline, when Commander Hampton Wade called together the last remnants of the Chapter, and with them took an oath upon the Bible to save Alpha. Realizing Theta's condition, it becomes more evident by what a slender thread the Fraternity clung to existence when Eugene Crowdus began his effort to establish new Chapters. During the college year of 1879-80, but one Sigma Nu returned to the University of Alabama, Robert Eugene Steiner, Lieutenant of Co. A, later Adjutant of the Corps, and a great favorite of the Commandant. "Gene" Steiner was essentially a military man, a leader graced with a commanding personality and moved by dominating courage. His integrity was unquestioned, and when he accepted membership in Sigma Nu at summer initiation, it was not inconsistent with his sense of honor, the strategy of the plan rather exciting his interest in the game of outwitting the hostile Board members, whose attitude was not altogether popular with the faculty.

Although "Gene" Steiner stood alone as the last initiate of Theta remaining at the University, the situation was not long without more hopeful prospect, for Steiner's superior attributes soon attracted associates of the highest order. During the next two years some of the finest of Theta's sons pledged allegiance to Sigma Nu. The peerless Daniel W. Langton was a product of that

period. George W. Peach, Hubert Trevellyn Davis, Henry Bacon Foster and John Warren Worthington were contemporaries of note. Not all these men were taken in during vacation, since that plan had been interrupted by insertion into the matriculation pledge of the clause "during term time or vacation". When the authorities learned that initiation had continued, the responsibility for explanation fortunately fell to Robert Steiner, whose courage and prestige triumphed. His experience is recounted in a letter written by Steiner to Commander Crowdus of Alpha, dated March 15, 1881, from which the following is quoted:

"Your letter came to hand some time ago, and I would have answered it sooner, but have been very busy with examinations, and 'our boys' have been in a considerable 'muss' since last I wrote.



ROBERT E. STEINER, THETA
Heroic figure in the early history of the University of Alabama Chapter.

"You may perhaps know that secret fraternities are prohibited here, and upon matriculation we are compelled to take an oath to the effect that we will not join a fraternity, but the pledge as signed by 'our boys' did not then cover vacation. Since we joined, the faculty inserted the phrase 'during vacation', but this clause was not in the pledge when we signed it. Well, it got out that there were a number of secret fraternities here, and our Commandant heard of it.

"One morning while in the Commandant's office turning over the report of the day (I being Adjutant), he asked me about these fraternities, but said that I could answer or not as I liked. I preferred to answer, and not only told him of my being a member, but also the others who were members. Every one expected us to be expelled, but we sent in our statement to the faculty who declared that we were all right in what we did, and caused the president to make a statement complimenting us for the manly way in which we owned up to it. We never were scared about being shipped, for we complimented ourselves that this University did not want to ship the best boys here. We certainly have them in the Sigma Nu."

The gracious faculty took radical measures against further evasion of the antifraternity law, compelling the students at the end of the college year to sign a furlough to cover the vacation period. If any refused to do so, he was declared a new student upon entering in the fall, with consequent loss of military ranking. Those who had been pledged for summer initiation were forced to wait until after graduation for membership in Sigma Nu. Others were

pledged, but during the years 1882-84 no more initiations were conducted. Langton went to Mexico as a chemist and mining engineer after graduation. While there Langton received one of Robinson's alluring letters announcing the plan for the First Convention of Sigma Nu, and that prepared him for action when he returned to the University during the year 1883-84. Theta's first Chapter letter, which was written by Langton for *The Delta*, May, 1884, heralded the prospect marked by his return:

"It is a pity the Fraternity is not blessed with more men like Brother Robinson of Lambda. I was afraid Theta was becoming lukewarm, but he and *The Delta* have aroused considerable interest in the good work. I think it is more than probable that we, together with Phi Delta Theta, will apply to the trustees for recognition at the University next term. I am afraid, however, that our chances are rather slim."

Langton found Theta greatly handicapped by the rule which prevented pledges being initiated until after graduation. But with his guiding spirit and enthusiasm to direct and to stimulate them, the group of fine prospects was soon animated with zeal and fervor for Sigma Nu. There were then four seniors pledged, five juniors, three sophomores and two freshmen. Benjamin L. Wyman, charter member of Theta, who had roomed with Thomas W. Clark, had returned to Tuscaloosa after taking medical degrees at the University of Virginia and in New York City, and his efforts greatly augmented revival activities. Langton conducted a systematic campaign to bring the alumni back for commencement week. Several of them had already become prominent citizens of the State, and their presence was expected to impress the authorities who were being urged to abolish antifraternity laws.

The memorable day of this reunion was June 18, 1884, undoubtedly the most important date in Theta's history except the date of its founding. A chapter organization was effected with alumni serving as officers. Wyman was Commander; Langton, Lieutenant Commander; George W. Peach, Grand Scribe; John W. Worthington, Princeps Justicia; and Henry B. Foster, Treasurer. Initiation of the graduates followed commencement exercises, and the men whose loyalty as pledges had kept the fires of friendship burning, during two years of suspended operations, were formally brought into the mysteries of Sigma Nu. These initiates were Elijah M. Harris, who had been on the honor roll two years, was an Editor of the *University Monthly*, President of the Erosophic Literary Society, and First Lieutenant in the Cadet Corps; John W. Sanford, two years on the honor roll, winner of first Shakespeare prize, and Erosophic Orator; and that matchless pair of good fellows, Louis L. Dean and Richard H. Stickney, whose devotion to each other as companions was undoubtedly a sustaining influence that had helped keep the Theta pledges intact and hopeful. A letter from "Dick" Stickney to Robinson reveals the remarkable spirit of fidelity engendered among this group of pledges. After four pages outpouring fraternal feeling to one he never had seen, the letter was concluded:

"I would take pleasure in writing more to you, but, as you no doubt know, I am in the midst of my examinations, and even now I am stealing a few min-

utes from my studies 'after taps' to write a letter that I take great pleasure in. And now thanking you for your congratulations and welcome into the dear old Sigma Nu, I am happy to subscribe myself your expectant Brother in Sigma Nu bonds which are faithful,

RICHARD H. STICKNEY, JR.

"P. S. Prospective Sigs all send love and best wishes for the future prosperity of the dear Order.

R. H. S., JR."

Evidences of Robinson's far-reaching efforts and influence are noteworthy in this connection. Langton was the rejuvenating genius of Theta's revival. But



LOUIS L. DEAN RICHARD H. STICKNEY
Intimates whose friendship was a sustaining influence in a critical period of Theta Chapter's history.

the far-off Robinson was the energizing force that followed Howard's *Deltas*, conserving interest wherever awakened, and creating new and stronger love for the Fraternity wherever his letters were received. Through these influences came the inspiration that moved Louis Dean to attend the First Convention eighteen days after he had been made a Sigma Nu, the beginning of his early Grand Chapter attendance record of four conventions, terminated when, in 1892, untimely death cut short his notable fraternity service that began in this *sub rosa* activity at Theta.

Aside from the four graduates, two others were initiated into Theta Chapter at the celebration in June, 1884. William W. Haralson, who had been graduated at Cumberland University before entering the University of Alabama for

his LL.B. degree, joined with the four seniors of the Academic department with whom he had been pledged during the year. Bertram T. Clayton, a pledge who had withdrawn two years previously to enter West Point, returned for the reunion and received his initiation. An enthusiastic gathering of alumni had responded to Langton's call. A State Association was formed with Wyman, president; Langton, vice president; R. E. Pettus, secretary; and H. B. Foster, treasurer. Considerable pressure was exerted by the influential alumni to get the antifraternity law rescinded, but without success. When the fall term of 1884 opened, Dean and Sanford returned to enter the law department, and were the only initiated members of Theta matriculated in the University. An



RICHARD E. PETTUS



PRESTON B. LOVE



WILLIAM W. WOODWARD

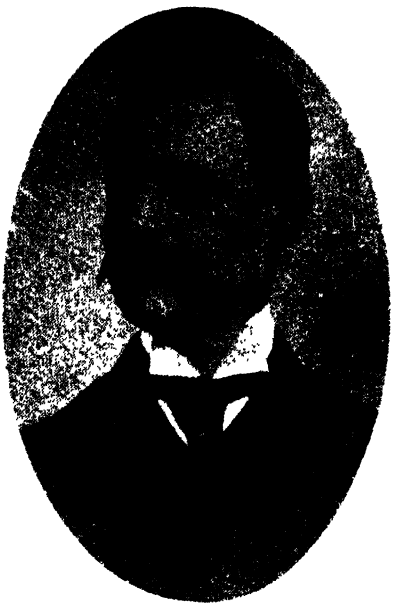
Alumni of Theta active during early years of the University of Alabama Chapter.

organization was formed with Dean, Commander; Sanford, Lieutenant Commander; and Langton, "Dick" Stickney, Henry B. Foster and Hubert T. Davis, alumni, filling the other offices.

Langton was connected with the University in the State Geological Survey, thus having influence with the faculty, by whom he was greatly esteemed. He persisted in his campaign against obnoxious fraternity restrictions, and in the spring of 1885 promulgated a petition so commanding in endorsement that the Board agreed to meet representatives of Phi Delta Theta, Kappa Alpha (S), and Sigma Nu, the three fraternities then seeking recognition. Preliminary to this agreement, Langton had been challenged by the officials to produce the Constitution and By-Laws of Sigma Nu to prove its worthiness. This he did in a confidential way with certain members of the faculty, sufficient to satisfy the Board of the high purposes of the Fraternity. At the meeting with representatives of the three organizations, Henry B. Foster, Daniel W. Langton and Louis L. Dean represented Sigma Nu. Foster was chosen spokesman for the fraternities, and made the opening argument. He signified the willingness of the Greek-letter societies to give up all privilege of suffrage in the literary societies, and agreed that in the future such honors as had been awarded by ballot should be determined by faculty decision, thus eliminating the objection-

able element of student politics. As a result of this meeting, antifraternity laws were repealed. With a joyous celebration Theta Chapter came again into open activity, initiating a notable array of pledges who already had been inspired with devotion to Sigma Nu under the tutelage of the loyal and lovable Louis L. Dean.

This spectacular campaign that Langton pursued to success was the sensation of national Greek-letter fraternity history of that period. Representative organizations of every section were alert concerning the outcome, for there were over two hundred students at the University of Alabama, and the type was very attractive. Much publicity was given in fraternity magazines to Langton's masterly efforts, and this distinguished son of Theta may be said to have brought Sigma Nu to its first recognition as a unit in the national regard of Greek-letter fraternities. Langton was a young man of the highest culture and refinement, endowed with an ease and grace that made him conspicuous in society and commanding in any company where he was present. He was conservative in nearly every element of his nature, extreme only in manifestations of his devotion to and ambition for Sigma Nu. In a general way, he reflected the stern Puritan ancestry of his Connecticut Yankee father; but in demonstration of affections he evidenced the warm-hearted impulses of his mother's Southern connections, the Nelsons and the Hatches of North Carolina. "Our Dan", as he was affectionately known by members of Theta, became at once an outstanding figure in the councils of the Fraternity. Elected Grand Treasurer at the first convention, he already had begun to manifest his influence in Sigma Nu. With Theta reclaimed and rejuvenated, Langton turned his talents to the broader field of service, and became a conservative factor in the growth of the Fraternity during the next five years.



DANIEL W. LANGTON, THETA
Foremost among famous sons of Theta. He brought the University of Alabama Chapter into a position of prominence and great influence.

CHAPTER XII

Out Where the West Begins

THE eventful year of 1884 was the fifteenth year of Sigma Nu. It marked the beginning of the substantial growth of the Fraternity. The desultory extension of the first decade had been mostly in vain, lack of policy and want of system having contributed to shortcomings of the organization. This condition was greatly improved by developments during the next five years, beginning with the efforts of Wade and Crowdus, and ending in the First Convention and its consequent results, with Howard, Robinson and Langton co-ordinating in the first concerted action towards systematic progress. Before considering subsequent events, a brief review of general fraternity development during this fifteen years will admit a more intelligent comprehension of situations involved in the rapid growth of Sigma Nu.

The Union Triad had remained content within its Eastern confines during that period, Kappa Alpha Society and Sigma Phi granting no new charters, Delta Phi adding two Eastern institutions to its circumscribed chapter roll. Alpha Delta Phi and Delta Psi had evidenced similar sectional exclusiveness, the former granting a single charter, the latter admitting but two chapters, all three of these additions being in the East. Psi Upsilon had been a little less conservative, adding four chapters, one of which was in the West. Chi Psi had put in two Eastern chapters, two in the West and one in the South. Zeta Psi had continued Eastern extension and had branched out in the West with a total of eight additions. Theta Delta Chi had established eight new Chapters in the East, and had granted one Western charter. Delta Kappa Epsilon, which previously had extended rapidly to the number of thirty-eight chapters, had retarded its activity and had added but six new chapters in fifteen years. The Anti-secret Federation had modified its attitude during this period, and to the roll of Delta Upsilon, its "non-secret" successor, eight new chapters had been added.

The principal development of the fraternity system during the first fifteen years of Sigma Nu history had been decidedly western in direction, with the Miami Triad generally blazing the trail, closely followed, when not preceded, by one or both the fraternities founded at Jefferson College. Beta Theta Pi had added thirty-one chapters in this fifteen-year period. Five of these had been incorporated *en bloc* by absorbing a small Eastern fraternity. Several others had been taken from younger fraternities, hastening their extinction in some cases. Seven chapters of Beta Theta Pi had been lost by withdrawals, including the Mother Chapter at Miami, where activity was suspended for ten

years. Sigma Chi had accumulated thirty-four chapters in the fifteen years, including Southern as well as Western additions, but very few in the East. Phi Delta Theta had added fifty-two new chapters in this period, about equally divided between the South and the West. Phi Gamma Delta and Phi Kappa Psi had pursued an approximately parallel policy in numbers and direction of chapter foundings, the former having granted twenty-two, the latter twenty-three chapters in the fifteen years. Phi Kappa Sigma had added seven new chapters to its roll. Delta Tau Delta had issued thirty-six new charters, well distributed geographically.

The fraternities of Southern origin had been very active in this fifteen-year period, but within more limited spheres. Alpha Tau Omega was the first to break Southern bounds, thirty-nine additions having included Northern grants, most of them in the Eastern section. Sigma Alpha Epsilon had acquired twenty-seven new chapters, its first Northern charter having been one of the last of these to be granted. Kappa Alpha (S) had established twenty-six new chapters in its realm. The Southern order of Chi Phi had added six, the Northern order nine, the united fraternity eight, making a total of twenty-three new chapters in fifteen years. With the exception of the placing of a chapter by Alpha Tau Omega at Oregon Agricultural College, none of the fraternities of Southern birth had gone farther west than the State of Illinois. Their tendency had been to attempt Northern expansion through Eastern entry, where congestion and prejudice of that period virtually precluded a propitious beginning. Sigma Nu had misguided ambitions in that direction, but fortunately they were deviated by fate, and the Fraternity was pointed to the West, where its pioneering experiences and successes gave it sturdiness and courage and prestige to build its Eastern Chapters upon adamantine foundations.

During the Christmas holidays of the college year 1883-84, Eugene L. Alford and William L. Bickham, of Lambda Chapter, Washington and Lee, initiated at Dallas, Texas, a boyhood friend, Joel Thomas Howard, then attending the University of Kansas. A charter was authorized by Lambda for a Chapter at that institution, and Joel Howard was selected to organize it. He returned to the University in January, 1884, but the new Chapter was not formed until June. The associations from which the nucleus of this Chapter originated dated back to the previous college year, when Joel Howard entered the University of Kansas. Situations involved had been developing for several years.

The University of Kansas, located at Lawrence, first opened its doors to students in 1866, and soon attracted the aggressive fraternities of that period. The first to enter was Beta Theta Pi, in 1872. Phi Kappa Psi followed in 1876. Phi Gamma Delta in 1881, and Phi Delta Theta in 1882. Bitter rivalries which marked interfraternity relationships of that time were soon manifest. The principal cause of this ill-feeling was the fight for control of University periodicals, the oratorical association, the literary societies and class offices. Numerically, the fraternity members were in the minority. But the majority lacked organization, and consequently the Greeks had always dominated.

The most active spirits among the "barbarians", the non-fraternity men, were Perlee Rawson Bennett and Grant Woodbury Harrington. Bennett had

exceptional talent as an organizer, and delighted in cabalistic plotting. He had a serious outward nature that concealed a deep sense of humor. He had intense antipathy for injustice, was unsubmissive when personally wronged, vehement and irrepressible when others were unfairly treated. Harrington had a keen political mind, was a natural strategist and had a fascination for college politics. He was more reserved in action than Bennett, but was equally determined in pursuing an end. There was a balance between the two natures which, supported by common inclinations and strengthened by mutual affection, made them invincible allies. Each had intellect above the ordinary, with power of expression in public speaking and in writing that served them effectively in their joint endeavors. Bennett lived in Lawrence with his mother, a very indulgent parent with unusual understanding of her son's youthful fancies, sharing in a unique and ideal way his secrets, his emotions and his companions.



EUGENE L. ALFORD, LAMBDA
Alumnus of the Washington and Lee Chapter instrumental in the founding of Nu at University of Kansas.

Harrington entered the senior preparatory department of the University of Kansas in the fall of 1882. Bennett was then a second-year student. The two most prominent student organizations at that time were the Oread and the Orphillian literary societies. Bennett and Harrington were members of the Oread society which, during the college year of 1882-83, was a storm center of political activity. Phi Kappa Psi and Phi Gamma Delta had massed their strength in this society, and were fighting each other for control. Bennett's political propensity was excited by this fray, and he determined to outwit both contenders. He organized a secret anti-secret society, a picked body of trustworthy aids, none of whom could be controlled or manipulated on the outside. Meetings were held in the basement of the Unitarian Church, the custodian of which was an ally of the organization. The operations of the secret anti-secret society were so skillfully obscured that its existence was not suspected. While the fraternities were alert in plots and counterplots against each other, Bennett's organization worked as a wheel within wheels, and controlled them all.

In the spring of that year, Harrington's senior "prep" class decided to organize. The fraternities set out at once to control the election. Harrington secured the assistance of Bennett's secret society, and by clever political leader-

ship succeeded in electing Albert Calvin Markley as class president. This was the beginning of a very delightful intimacy between these two young men, and when they separated at commencement time they agreed to room together the next year, an arrangement that continued throughout their four-year college careers. Markley also was an Oreatl. At the beginning of the next college year, in the fall of 1883, the Bennett secret organization maintained its strength in that society. Growing bolder, it extended its operations to the Orphillian literary society, and sought control of other University activities. About the middle of the year when new victories were in sight, Judas knocked at the door and was admitted. The next day the Bennett-Harrington organization was betrayed. The halls of the University rang with the startling news



FRASER HALL, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
The only building on the campus at the time Nu Chapter was founded.

of the exposure. The cause of continued breaking of political slates became known. In a day the magnificent Bennett-Harrington machine was wrecked. Its strength had been in its secrecy. Divested of this element, it collapsed completely.

This catastrophe brought to light a movement that had been secretly working toward disruption from within the organization. It had been known that a group was being organized to petition for a charter from Sigma Chi, but not until after the sudden breaking up of the Bennett-Harrington cabal did these two leaders learn that members of their secret organization were plotting to desert. In a spirit of revenge, Bennett and Harrington drew a few intimates into closer fellowship and prepared a petition to Sigma Chi, hoping by priority to outwit the other group. They were too late, negotiations with the others having been started. A representative was sent by Sigma Chi, who attempted to unite the petitioners, but ill-feeling between the two groups was a barrier to harmony. About this time Harrington was stricken with pneu-

OREAD-OROPHILIAN

SECRET ANTI-SECRET FRATERNITY.

ESTABLISHED, 1883.

Motto: BLOOD! BLOOD!! BLOOD!!!

SIGMA CHI, 1884. ("IF NOTHIN' HAPPENS.")



"SOMETHIN' HAPPENS."

GREEK SATIRE

Page from the 1884 *Cicala*, University of Kansas annual controlled by fraternities. What "happened" was of incalculable importance in the history of Sigma Nu.

monia. He was taken to Bennett's home where he received loving care from Mrs. Bennett, and from his own mother who came to his bedside. After recovering sufficiently to travel, Harrington was taken to his own home in the northeastern part of the State, and by June he was able to return to the University for commencement exercises.

The University annual, controlled by the fraternities, was profuse in its ridicule of the Bennett organization. Editorial sarcasm was keen. Following



CAMPUS AND BUILDINGS, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
From a photograph taken in 1897
Fraser Hall, third building from the left, built in 1872, was the only one erected when Nu Chapter was established. Snow Hall, to the right, was built in 1886, two years after the founding of Nu. Spooner Library, extreme left, built in 1897, is now Spooner-Thayer Art Museum. Blake Hall, second from the left, was built in 1895.

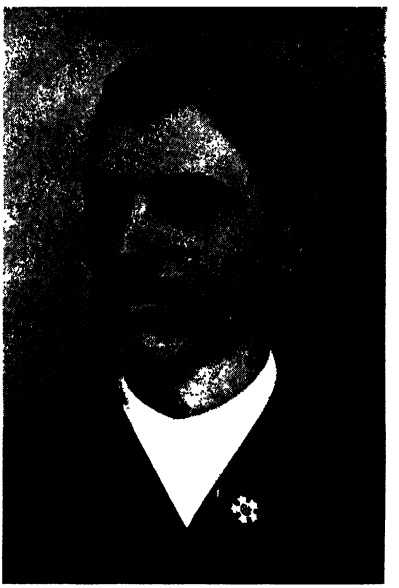
the customary section devoted to fraternities, there appeared a display page featuring the Oread-Orphillian Secret Anti-Secret Fraternity. Its motto was given as "Blood, BLOOD, B-L-O-O-D". Its purpose was stated as "Sigma Chi in 1884—(If nothin' happens)". Under this was a cut showing a rooster holding up a hatchet. Below this was printed: "Somethin' happens." A title chicken was pictured emerging from a cracked egg-shell labeled "O. O. S. A. F." This was followed by a four-page drama drawn from real life, arranged in four acts, and entitled "Bellum Internecium", or "Twixt the Cup and the Lip". Both factions were held up to ridicule in the writing. The characters were B-tt, High Mucky-Muck of the Great Secret Anti-Secret Fraternity; followers of the H. M. M.; and those at enmity with the House of B-tt.

When Harrington returned to the University as a commencement visitor, he found his intimate associates without any organization. The only one who had a plan was Hiram Barton Martin. Harrington and Martin had been Latin classmates in the preparatory department. During that first year in Lawrence, Harrington met at his boarding house Joel Howard, of Dallas, Texas. Howard was of a shy, retiring disposition, and did not seem to feel at home in the rough and tumble life of the University of that day. That would account for his inactivity when he returned after Christmas holidays, the next year, 1884, with authority to establish a Chapter of Sigma Nu at the University of Kansas. Joel Howard was well liked by all. His early meeting with Harrington had resulted in acquaintances among Harrington's friends, but Joel Howard's nature restrained him from participation in the political *potpourri*. He was discouraged

by conditions, and hesitated to attempt the formation of a Sigma Nu Chapter. He was mindful of his responsibility, however, and since he did not plan to return to Kansas the next year, he confided in Martin the fact that he had been delegated to establish a Chapter of Sigma Nu at the University, and he asked Martin to take up the work.

This was the plan that Martin presented to his associates when Harrington returned during commencement week in 1884. None of them knew anything





PERLEE RAWSON BENNETT GRANT WOODBURY HARRINGTON

Leaders of a local organization in which associations were formed that led to the founding of Nu Chapter.

about Sigma Nu, but it was something about which the intimates of the disorganized Bennett forces might cling and perpetuate their friendships. Accordingly, these associates agreed to join Joel Howard's fraternity. There were five in this compact, all residents of Kansas, viz.: Hiram Barton Martin, Atchison; Perlee Rawson Bennett, Lawrence; Grant Woodbury Harrington, Baker; Frank Arthur Marshall, Leavenworth; and Albert Calvin Markley, Carbondale. In this order, with the name of Joel Thomas Howard first, these men became the charter members of Nu Chapter of Sigma Nu Fraternity on June 2, 1884. After election of officers they separated for the summer, no one but Bennett's mother knowing that a new Fraternity had been inaugurated at the University. All but Joel Howard expected to return the next fall, and it was deemed expedient to keep their connections a secret until they started active operation.

Within three weeks after the founding of Nu Chapter, Robinson was in correspondence with this latest offspring of Lambda Chapter. The response

must have been the most reassuring sign of progress he had received, for the reply came back post haste in a sixteen-page letter from Perlee Rawson Bennett. Coming from one who had been a member but three weeks, the remarkable communication reveals the native talent and innate fascination that Rawson Bennett had for fraternity work. Aside from the display of interest and grasp of affairs evidenced in the part of this letter which is reproduced, there were



HIRAM B. MARTIN



FRANK A. MARSHALL



ALBERT C. MARKLEY

Charter members of the University of Kansas Chapter.

several pages presenting a survey of educational institutions in Kansas, with comments on conditions and prospects that indicate the rare intellect with which Bennett was endowed.

THE UNIVERSITY REVIEW

OPERA HOUSE BUILDING

Lawrence, Kansas, June 24, 1884.

I. P. Robinson, Esq.,

Dear Sir and Bro.: Your welcome letter of the 21st received today. Suppose the charter will be along pretty soon. Am glad you have taken precautions to keep our existence secret. I will give reasons more in detail than before.

All our members, save Brother Joel Howard, were members of a secret local organization here, formed for the purpose of combating "frat" domination in the open literary societies. We were not "antifrat" but proposed to see that the "barbs" had a fair shake. By reason of our existence being unknown, we were quite successful for nearly a year, but by the indiscretion of one man and the treachery of a scoundrel, our existence and workings became to a large extent known, and our organization broken up. We were to all intents and purposes a fraternity, but did not bind our members from joining others. Though, of course, when they did so they severed their connection with us.

But this course did not make us friends among the "frats". The Phi Kappa Psi, against which we primarily organized, dislikes us as a whole, although, personally, I have some very warm friends in that order. With Phi Gamma Delta we worked at first, but when they thought they could hold the "barbs" without us and attempted to expel from the society one of us, to gratify personal enmity, we turned upon them, beat them on the expulsion business, and took our revenge by defeating their candidate for the oration on our June exhibition. So now they hate us, and the feeling is returned. The member whom they attempted to impeach and expel was myself, then president of Oread society.

With Beta Theta Pi and Phi Delta Theta, we came little in contact, as there were but two of the former and none of the latter in Oread, and while we had members in the other society where they were, this part of our organization was but lately established, and had done but little. But whatever one fears, he dislikes; so it was with these frats and us. They feared us, knowing how badly we had gotten away with those in Oread. Still, we have no particular quarrel with them. Personally, some of my warmest friends in the University are in Beta Theta Pi and Phi Kappa Psi.

With Sigma Chi (recently organized), owing to numerous affairs arising during their organization—one of our men bolting to them and they "spiking" others—and to the row connected with the consolidation of the college papers, there is "war to the knife". We despise the Sigma Chis and they hate us.

In fact, even as Oread is the worst fighting society in the University, so our boys have the reputation of being a hard crowd to run over. I believe I have the honor of being considered one of the worst men in the University to tackle in a parliamentary fight.

But we have made up our minds to let up on society fights and work up Sigma Nu. Yet, for reasons given, we think we can succeed better to run *sub rosa* for some time, until the memory of our political exploits is somewhat dimmed. So we have come to the conclusion that our best course is to run *sub rosa* for some time, to take in but few men, and make the very best record we can for our Chapter in University work. Whether we shall succeed in building up a Chapter here that will be an honor to itself and Sigma Nu, time will tell. At least we will do our best and, if we fail, fall like valiant "Knights of the 'Legion of Honor', sword in hand and face to the foe".

I wish you would let me know how many Chapters Sigma Nu has and their whereabouts, as I desire to send them a circular letter at the beginning of next year. Also please send me a catalogue of your college.

I don't know yet whether we will send a representative to Nashville or not, but hardly think we can this year. I would like to be there if the Constitution is to be revised, as well as to meet the boys.

By the way, I don't see the Convention mentioned in the Constitution?

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Yours in Sigma Nu,

P. R. BENNETT.

Thus began a volume of correspondence prolific with promise of real progress for the Fraternity. Bennett's acceptance of Sigma Nu without previous investigation was decidedly contrary to his thoroughgoing nature, this exception emphasizing his motives. Envy and selfishness were absolutely lacking in his attitude toward fraternities. His antagonism to the system, as it was then operating, had been aroused by his sense of justice and square dealing. Interest in the fundamentals of secret orders was inherent in his make-up. Rivalry of the bitterest sort between fraternities was not opposed by him. Indeed, he encouraged it as an incentive to greater effort. Ambition for service and desire for a medium upon which to devote his creative talents and organizing ability were the impelling motives behind Rawson Bennett's acceptance of Sigma Nu. Needless to add, there was no occasion for disappointment over the possibilities for improvement he found in the Fraternity he joined. Instead, he must have been amazed at the lack of stabilized forms and want of organized functions prevailing prior to the First Convention when he was initiated. The following extracts from one of his early letters to Robinson show the trend of his attitude and of his intellect:

"Bro. Robinson, there is no use evading the fact that in many points we are much behind other frats. We need thirty good active Chapters and a larger paper. The Fraternity should have a stronger government, and be incorporated.

"I think the principles on which our Order rests are most noble, but in matters of material growth we have much to gain. We should, I think, bend all our energies for the next two years to establishing Chapters in well-endowed colleges, preferring state schools. Let us not repeat the errors of the past in other frats by establishing in small and struggling colleges.

* * * *

"Can you furnish me the addresses of any Brothers in Missouri or Wisconsin? We are keeping our eyes in both directions, and only want an opportunity to make a fair start.

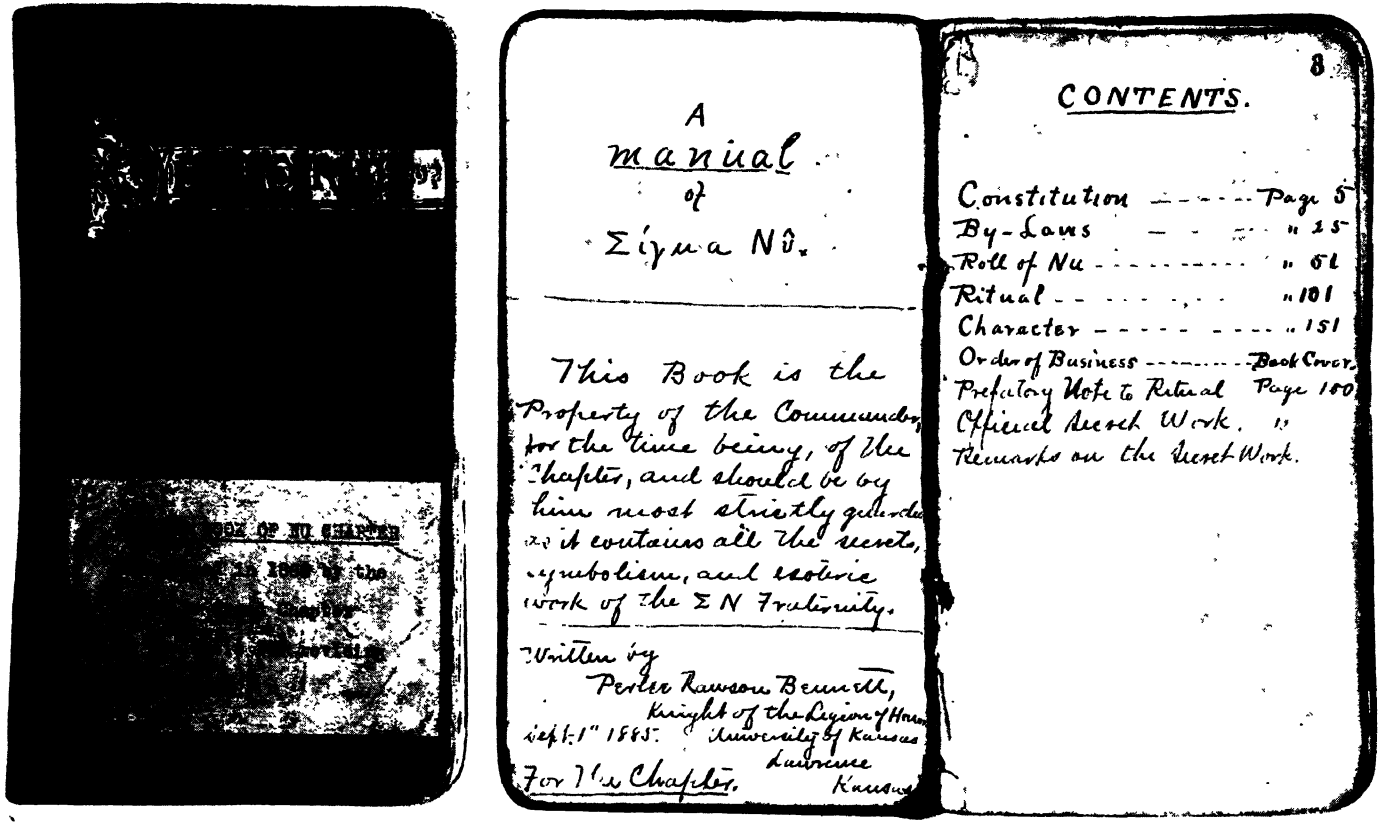
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"We have much to do before we can place our good old Sigma Nu on equal footing with other frats. Understand me, I would rather be a Sigma Nu than belong to any of our rivals, but I still recognize the fact that taking our frat as a whole we are behind several of them.

* * * *

"I think it would be a good idea for the Grand Chapter to issue a circular setting forth the exact condition of the Frat and urging the Chapters in renewed efforts in the way of extension."

Such expressions from one who had not yet enjoyed the privileges and benefits of fraternity affiliation show the unselfish inspiration that animated Rawson Bennett's career in Sigma Nu. Moved by such deep impulses, he planned for the first active year of Nu Chapter, fully conscious of the perilous prospect ahead, but exhilarated rather than discouraged by the odds against success. Harrington and Markley returned in the fall ready to resume the conquest with Bennett under the new banner. Martin and Marshall did not come back that term, but they paid dues and considered themselves active members, returning



A
manual
of
Σίγμα Νῦ.

This Book is the Property of the Commander for the time being, of the Chapter, and should be by him most strictly guarded as it contains all the secrets, symbolism, and esoteric work of the Σ N Fraternity.

Written by
Perley Rawson Bennett,
Knight of the Legion of Honor
Sept. 1st 1885. University of Kansas
Lawrence
For the Chapter. Kansas

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RED BOOK OF NU CHAPTER

Historic Record Book of the Kansas Chapter, in which was written Rawson Bennett's first revision of the Ritual.

for fellowship whenever possible. *Sub rosa* operation was decided upon to guard against malicious opposition, and for several months it was not known by the other fraternities that a Chapter of Sigma Nu was secretly building up its membership.

The first pledge secured was Lee Charles Miller, of Wichita, Kansas. He was initiated at Bennett's home in October, 1884, Harrington officiating as Commander, with Bennett, Markley and Marshall assisting, the latter having returned for his first ceremonial. Despite the handicaps, this initiation was probably the most studied of any that had been solemnized in Sigma Nu. Impressed with the need of a more extensive ceremony than was then in use, Bennett had interpolated elaborations and additions into the secret work. This first contribution of the Master Ritualist of Sigma Nu was written into what became known as the "Red Book of Nu Chapter", into which were pasted separated portions of the printed Ritual. with the extensions in Bennett's handwriting. This became the basis for the next revision of the Ritual, but before its formal adoption it was used in all the early initiations of Nu Chapter.

The first officers of Nu Chapter were Harrington, Commander; Bennett, Grand Scribe; and Markley, Treasurer. Miller, the first initiate, was assigned the duties of Princeps Justicia. William Sullivan Bales was initiated in October, and became Lieutenant Commander. James Buchanan Harris was initiated later that month, and William Jones Marshall in November. With this increase in numbers, the Chapter became ambitious to have a hall for meeting. Under *sub rosa* conditions, this was a hazardous enterprise, but it was undertaken with all the more enthusiasm for that reason. The rental of a second-story room in a business block was secretly arranged, and an assessment was made to provide meager furnishings, including a small coal stove. The first meeting in this room was planned with extreme caution, the members approaching separately. Not until all had gathered in the darkness was the oil lamp lighted. A fire was next in order. It was started successfully, but terminated disastrously. Smoke soon was discovered filling the entrance hall. It was found that the stove-pipe had not been connected with the chimney, but was left open into the hallway. The fire was quickly extinguished, and the meeting was adjourned for fear the smoke would attract attention and lead to their exposure.

H. B. Martin returned to the University in January, 1885. In March, Frederick Chester Keys was initiated. During the month of February, it had been decided that the existence of the Chapter should be made publicly known. Circumstances affecting this decision were set forth in a letter from Bennett to Robinson, explaining a telegram requesting the loan of badges.

Lawrence, Kansas,
February 15, 1885.

Dear Bro. Robinson:

Your telegram dated this A. M. just received. Am sorry mine was not intelligible. I said, addressing Bro. Snelling, because I knew he was there: "Tell Alpha, Lambda lend Nu ten badges immediately. Great emergency."

Perhaps we have created needless stir over our difficulties here, but the older

members of the Chapter had come to conclusion that the soonest minute we could get out the better.

The most important social event of the year in University circles was approaching, the University ball, and we had arranged to attend in a body, if we could get our badges in time. Also important elections in the societies are very near, in which, owing to a series of events impossible to give here, we could secure much better places if we were "out". There had been a tacit understanding among the frats here that only frats are expected to attend the ball, and barbs would get the cold shoulder if present.

Then, too, by an accident, the frats had got a good strong pointer as to our movements, and we could scarcely stir without someone watching us.

There is a kind of consensus of opinion here among the older frats that we have enough Greeks in K. S. U., and any further movement in that way, like our own, is impeded in every possible manner.

Last, but by no means least, is grave dissatisfaction in two of our men. One of these the Phi Delta Thetas tried their best to lift, and the man, being young, new in college and inexperienced, they "broke him up" to such an extent that we were compelled to send official notice to the Phi Delta Thetas that they must cease tampering with him. Although they did not succeed in lifting him, yet through a variety of influences they made him extremely dissatisfied for a while. He seems to be coming around all right now, but did not attend meetings for a full month.

You may think that we are needlessly alarmed, or have created a needless disturbance among you; but we, the charter members, felt the Chapter to be hanging on the edge of a precipice, and snatched at the most available means to save it from destruction. We desire above all things the progress and honor of Sigma Nu, and resolved not to let her first outpost in the North go down if it could by any means be saved.

Then, too, one man is about to leave school for the rest of the year, and we desired to come out before he left, though this was but a small matter, as he is as true as steel.

For all of the above reasons, Bros. Martin, Markley, Harrington and I resolved to fire off our bombshell of a telegram. Hoping that we have not caused you of Alpha and Lambda needless worry, and that you don't think we have been scared by shadows, I am

Yours in the Legion,

P. R. BENNETT.

On March first, Bennett again wrote to Robinson:

"The badges received some days since, and am sorry that I have been so busy that I have not had time to acknowledge receipt of same. Many thanks to the boys of Lambda and Alpha. We are not out yet, having decided, on account of combinations against us, that it is best to lie low for about a week yet. We shall appear from "under the rose", with no accidents, on Monday, March 8th.

"We feel under the greatest obligations to the Brothers at Lexington, and only hope that some or all of them may venture out this far into the West, when we will give them a right loyal welcome.

"We are a rather mixed lot here, coming originally from half a dozen States, and having no very fixed intention of remaining in Kansas. Brothers Martin and Harris come from Missouri, Brother Harrington from Wisconsin, Brother Markley from West Virginia, Brother F. A. Marshall from Ohio, Brother Bales from Kentucky, and myself from Indiana. But we get along with the greatest harmony with perhaps one exception, a full account of which I enclose herewith, and would like your best advice upon.

"Do you know the address of any Sigma Nus in Missouri? We are in correspondence with one at Sedalia, with a view of establishing in Missouri University, but want some others."

The first chapter letter from Nu, written by Bennett, announced:

"On the morning of March 9th, nine men appeared bearing aloft the radiant 'White Cross' of our beloved Fraternity. The Chapter met with a fairly friendly reception from the other fraternities, and with one exception, to be related further on, has been enjoying continued prosperity."

The "one exception" was finally lifted by the Phi Delts.

The year 1885-86 did not open very auspiciously for Nu Chapter, only Harrington, Markley, Frank Marshall, Harris and Keys returning. Bennett had entered the University of Michigan, and Harrington succeeded him as generalissimo. The "fairly friendly reception" attending Nu's "coming out" was not a forecast of the future attitude of the other fraternities. The Chapter inherited the enmities growing out of the Secret Anti-Secret Fraternity activities, and ill-feeling between Sigma Nu and Phi Delta Theta over the lifting case created a new feud. There was concerted action by these unfriendly rivals to crush out Sigma Nu, and Nu Chapter had to fight for existence during its second year. Harrington's methods were not as spectacular as Bennett's had been, but they were just as effective, and created less ill-will. Harrington was prudent as well as politic. He asked no quarter and gave none in a political fight. But when the battle was over there was less bitterness than when Bennett was the leader. As a result, the attitude toward Sigma Nu gradually changed from animosity to respect, and Nu Chapter became a recognized rival in this important center of fraternity activity.

The significance of the establishment of Nu Chapter as it affected the history of the Fraternity is many-sided. In its first radical move toward expansion, Sigma Nu gained in one bold step its first Northern foothold and a Western outpost. Conceived by men from the West, the Faith had been enriched by Southern sentiment and glorified by Southern traditions, to receive again the invigorating influence of that Western spirit of courage and initiative which had animated the Founders of the Legion of Honor. Having emanated from impulses of square-dealing as opposed to overbearing practices of college fraternities, it was appropriate that the entry of Sigma Nu into the Northern field should have been the means of steadying the resolves and strengthening the hands of those who were fighting similar abuses. Bennett and Harrington strikingly typified the ideals of Founder Hopkins. Most vital of all the consequences of the founding of Nu Chapter was the initiation of these two Knights who were to lead the Fraternity out of its circumscribed sphere of influence into an unbounded field of activity.

CHAPTER XIII

The Triumvirate Sundered

WHILE Lambda's missionaries were blazing a western trail for Sigma Nu, the disciples of Kappa continued their conquest in the South, and on October 15, 1884, established Xi Chapter at Emory College, as it was then known. This institution was opened in 1837 under the control of the Georgia and Florida Conferences of the Methodist Church. Its location was in the village of Oxford, Newton County, Georgia. about forty miles east of Atlanta. Later it became the College of Liberal Arts of Emory University, located just outside the city limits of Atlanta. Four years after the opening of Emory College a "temple" of the Mystical Seven was established there. It was forced out by faculty ruling in 1858. This restriction against secret societies was not enforced after the Civil War. Chi Phi and Kappa Alpha (S) entered in 1869; Phi Delta Theta followed in 1871; Alpha Tau Omega and Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1881; and Delta Tau Delta in 1882.



JOHN W. JONES, KAPPA-XI
Founder of Xi Chapter at Emory College.

In the summer of 1884, Joseph P. Applewhite, charter member of Eta Chapter and Chief of the newly created Third Division, initiated William K. Bell at Millen, Georgia, where both resided. Applewhite previously had secured authority to initiate prospects for a Chapter at Emory College. Bell entered Emory in the fall, but lacked experience and made no headway. John W. Jones, of Kappa Chapter, transferred to Emory College that fall. John Alexander Howard visited Oxford in October, and persuaded Jones to assume the responsibility of establishing a Chapter, with Bell as his aid. By that time the fraternities had made their selections, and desirable material was scarce. Aside from the six fraternities operating there, groups of petitioners were seeking charters from Chi Psi and Sigma Chi. Jones and Bell initiated two converts

during the fall term, the Chapter composed of these four members running *sub rosa* the remainder of that college year. Faculty rules required application for recognition before a fraternity could be openly active. This request was made by the Sigma Nus, but was not at once granted. The aim of the faculty was to control the number of organizations within the limit the College could support creditably. The application of three prospective entrants complicated the situation for a time. The groups petitioning Chi Psi and Sigma Chi failed in their efforts, and Sigma Nu was promised official recognition at commencement time. With official sanction assured, three additional members were initiated before the end of the year, the seven who "came out" at commencement time considering themselves the charter members of Xi Chapter. They were John W. Jones, William K. Bell, Abner A. Bailey, William M. Parker, John P. Adams, Ernest L. Roberts and James T. Smith.

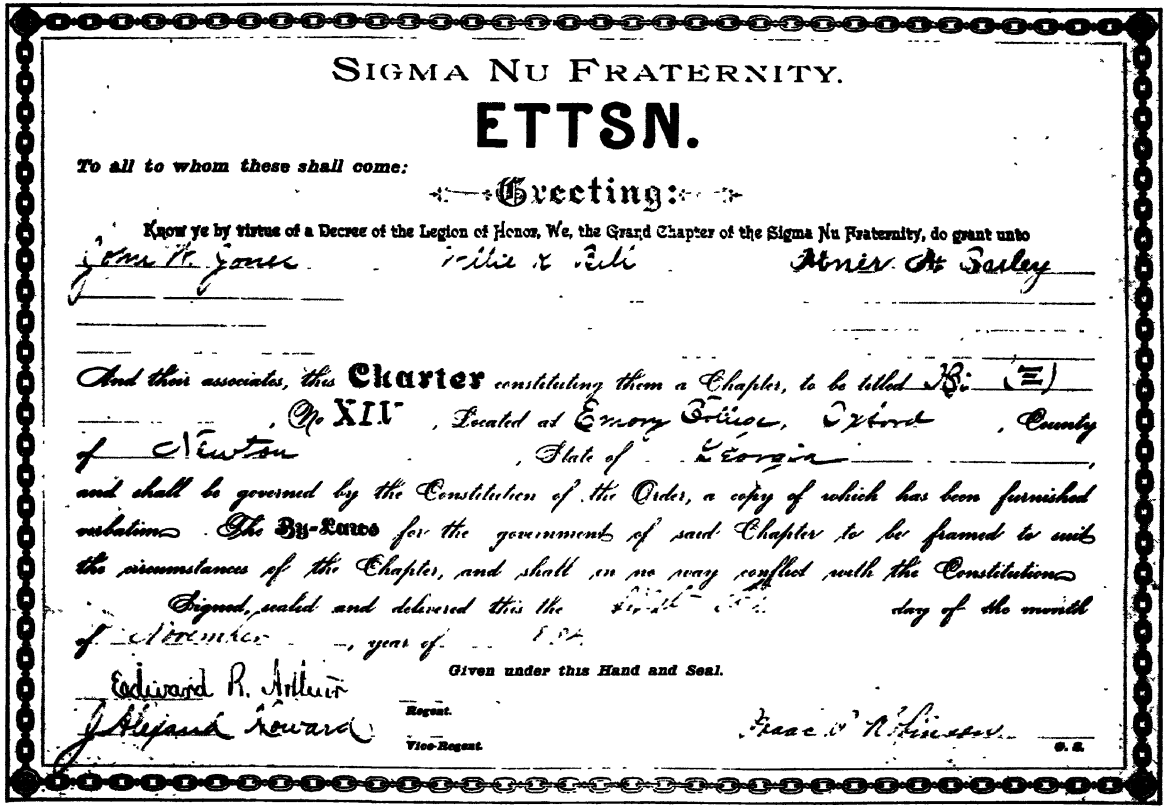
Jones, Bailey and Adams were on hand at the fall opening of the college year 1885-86. These three were the most active and enthusiastic among the charter members. "Smiling John Willie" Jones was a great favorite among the students, and was prominent socially. Bailey was equally popular, a great wit, and the dispenser of good cheer on all occasions. Adams was an exceptionally brilliant young man and a fine chap, although too much of a good fellow for his own welfare. These three arrived early in the fall of 1885 to set in motion the plans for the first year of open activity. Smith, a fourth member, matriculated late, but was in time to lend a hand.



JOEL GLOVER JEFFCOAT, XI
A leader during early years of Xi Chapter, a life-long enthusiast of Sigma Nu.

The abandonment of the Chi Psi petition having released a group of select fellows, there was a contest among the fraternities to augment their numbers from the membership of this disbanded local organization. Sigma Nu secured two converts from this seasoned group, William Walter Jones, a senior, and Joel Glover Jeffcoat, a junior. Jeffcoat had been one of the most earnest and active among the Chi Psi petitioners, and had accumulated fraternity experience as well as enthusiasm in that connection. He was one of those rare spirits to whom fraternity associations appeal, not simply for the benefits they bestow, but for the opportunity for service and sacrifice offered to those who know the joy of giving as well as the pleasure of receiving. He became at once a loyal and aggressive member of Sigma Nu, and a mainstay of Xi Chapter.

Four Knights were initiated during the fall term. With a total of ten mem-



SIGMA NU FRATERNITY.

ETTSN.

To all to whom these shall come:

Greeting:

Know ye by virtue of a Decree of the Legion of Honor, We, the Grand Chapter of the Sigma Nu Fraternity, do grant unto

James H. Jones, Willis A. Hill, Abner A. Bailey

And their associates, this **Charter** constituting them a Chapter, to be titled Mu (Ξ)

No XII, located at Emory College, Oxford, County of Newton, State of Georgia,

and shall be governed by the Constitution of the Order, a copy of which has been furnished substatim. The **By-Laws** for the government of said Chapter to be framed to suit the circumstances of the Chapter, and shall in no way conflict with the Constitution.

Signed, sealed and delivered this the [illegible] day of the month of November, year of [illegible]

Given under this Hand and Seal.

Edward R. Arthur
Regent.

J. Pleasant Reward
Vice-Regent.

Isaac N. R. Rivers
G. S.

CHARTER OF XI CHAPTER

Probably the first printed form of charter used. The signatures are those of three of the Grand Officers elected at the First Convention.

bers the Chapter secured the use of a room in the belfry of Seney Hall for its meetings. For a time this room was shared with Sigma Alpha Epsilon, but later Xi Chapter had the exclusive use of its meeting place, which was furnished in a simple but comfortable manner. Many difficulties were encountered during that period which made the first year of open activity a constant fight for existence. Three withdrawals from the College during the winter reduced the forces, but this was in part offset by two additional initiations. The departing



SENEY HALL
Main Building of old Emory College where Xi Chapter was founded in 1884.
In the belfry of this building Xi Chapter held its early meetings.

of Smith and Jeffcoat in the spring was another blow, leaving but seven members to complete the year. In the final letter to *The Delta*, Bailey summarized the year's experience as follows:

"Xi still holds her sacred head above the waves of misfortune. We have had a strong current to pull against, but guided by the hand of Providence, we have left all the discords of college strife fairly at our backs. We have made some narrow escapes."

Three of the charter members, Jones, Bailey and Smith, again matriculated at the opening of the college year 1886-87. Jeffcoat also returned, resuming his place as one of the leaders. He was a constant source of inspiration in the Chapter, becoming its most prominent representative in college activities. Guy Crusselle affiliated from Kappa, accompanied by his brother Edward, the fourth of six Crusselle brothers who became members of Sigma Nu. They achieved first and third scholarship rank in the sophomore class that year, and added much strength to Xi Chapter. Jeffcoat was an editor of *Phoenix*, the Emory

College paper, an officer in the senior class, and one of the debaters in the contest between the two literary societies. Through his influence, the Chapter took action against participation in political combinations, for which advanced stand it was highly commended. Several new members were initiated during the year, and the permanency of Xi Chapter was in every way assured. The spirit that won this success against great odds was expressed in a chapter letter written by Xi's founder, John W. Jones, in his junior year.



SIX CRUSSELLE BROTHERS
Famous sextette of double brothers whose fraternity relationships linked the name Crusselle with four Georgia chapters. Rear row—William F. Crusselle, Kappa; Arthur B. Crusselle, Eta-Xi; George W. Crusselle, Mu-Kappa. Front row—Victor H. Crusselle, Eta-Xi; Edward Crusselle, Xi; Guy H. Crusselle, Kappa-Xi.

"Being a rather small Fraternity has been the tool by which some have unjustly tried to injure us. It is well that on all sides we have been assailed, for from every stroke intended to crush we have with renewed strength risen yet higher. Thus from continued effort it is with no little pride that we see the banner of Sigma Nu waving high."

Following this result of Kappa Chapter's extension activity, the second line of Lambda's descendants was started through Zeta Chapter in the fall of 1884, when Omicron Chapter was founded at Bethel College, Russellville, Kentucky. Bethel College, a Baptist institution, was established in 1856. Phi Gamma Delta entered a Chapter there that year. Sigma Alpha Epsilon followed in 1858. Both became dormant at the beginning of the Civil War. Phi Gamma Delta was revived after the war, and maintained a charter there for more than forty years, although not active all this time. Alpha Tau Omega established a Chapter at Bethel in 1872, but it ceased existence the next year. At the time of the entrance of Sigma Nu, Phi Gamma Delta had suspended activity, and did not resume operations until about four years later.

William Linn Martin, of Zeta, was the founder of Omicron Chapter. He had attended Central University at Richmond, Kentucky, during the year 1883-84, the first active year of Zeta, of which Chapter Martin was the second initiate. Thus he came in contact with that missionary spirit which Lambda infused into her offspring, and the next summer he determined to heed the injunction to "go ye and preach the gospel of Sigma Nu". Martin lived near Glasgow, Kentucky. His parents were highly respected people in that community, where Linn was loved by all. Herman Morris, a Glasgow boy, entered Bethel College when Linn Martin went to Central. Morris planned to return to Bethel the next fall with Harry M. Hill, another of Linn Martin's Glasgow "pals". Through them, Martin determined to start the new Chapter. Hill was riding a colt out the pike past the Martin home one day, when he observed his friend Linn sitting in reverie on top of a fence which Linn had been whitewashing before he saw Hill coming down the road. The serious expression on Linn's face indicated that he had something weighty on his mind. This he soon unburdened to Hill, suggesting that Hill and Herman Morris establish Sigma Nu at Bethel College. The proposition was talked over with Morris, who agreed to co-operate.

All this negotiating was attended with great secrecy, which was the element about fraternities that attracted and fascinated most of all. The Martin barn was selected as the safest place to conduct the initiation. When Hill and Morris arrived to receive the rites, they were conducted to a rear stall where Linn had decided they were least likely to be discovered. He had borrowed the family Bible, which rested on the edge of the feed rack convenient to the rostrum improvised in the feed trough. Two boxes had been placed close to this for the candidates, all arranged with profound respect for the occasion. The initiation was conducted with much solemnity, the setting adding charm to the revelation of the mysteries. Never was Knighthood more reverently bestowed and received than when the sword, made of lath, tokened the admission of these two novices into the Legion of Honor.

This unique ceremony was performed on August 20, 1884. The next month, Hill and Morris left for Russellville with a deep sense of responsibility and pride. They proceeded with caution and thoughtfulness in the selection of associates. There were less than a hundred students at Bethel College, and it was comparatively easy to single out the leaders. Scholarship records and places in the Philomathic and Neotropean Literary Societies were the most prized honors which, considered along with fellowship, influenced the proffers of membership in Sigma Nu. The four associates selected to become charter members of Omicron Chapter, with Harry M. Hill and Herman Morris, were Walter E. Leigh, Philip F. King, Perry B. Miller and Thomas A. Frazer. Application for faculty recognition was made and granted, after which the chapter roll was increased to fourteen by the initiation of Walter A. Radford, Jesse L. Coles, James Garland Cooper, Eben G. Vick, Brent Altsheler, Joseph H. Fuqua, Harvey S. McCutcheon and Edward Morris. Thus was constituted the original

Omicron Chapter, to which during the year were added the names of William Rice Burr and John Louis Grayot.

In the search for a meeting place, the early members explored the attic under the belfry of the main building, where two large rooms were occupied by the literary societies. Less conspicuous rooms were investigated with the desire of finding one appropriately surrounded for the use of a secret society.



BETHEL COLLEGE
Main Building of Bethel College, where Omicron Chapter was established in 1884. Reproduced from *The Delta.*

A lock was pried off one door disclosing an abandoned meeting place already arranged with necessary furnishings. Investigation revealed a Phi Gamma Delta charter upon the wall. This left no doubt about its being a suitable location, and this room was appropriated for the early meetings of Omicron Chapter. There was no controversy over the right to use this room in the college building, since Phi Gamma Delta was then inactive. However, the following paragraph from a chapter letter written by Harvey McCutcheon for *The Delta* indicates that tenure was uncertain:

"Our chapter room is not a palace by any means, and we do not feel like improving it until we know positively if it is ours. It was formerly the hall of the Phi Gamma Delta Chapter, which is now inactive. The Trustees of the College have promised to give us a lease in the fall, but if the Phis revive their Chapter, as there is a prospect of their doing, it may delay matters."

In a later chapter letter, McCutcheon indicated that their lease had been secured. He wrote:

"We have added several important improvements to our Chapter hall this year in the shape of two lamps, a table and a nice stove."

During the second and third year of Omicron Chapter, Harvey McCutcheon was its mainstay. No doubt he was greatly responsible for these "important improvements" to the chapter hall. A furnished hall was a rare boast at that



HARVEY S. McCUTCHEON
OMICRON-BETA OMICRON
Leader of the Bethel College Chapter, who became founder of Beta Omicron Chapter at the University of the South, Sewanee.



SIDNEY E. BRADSHAW,
OMICRON-BETA
One of the scholastic leaders of the Bethel College Chapter who later affiliated with Beta in a renewal of the University of Virginia Chapter.

time, and Omicron was justly proud of her possession. Harvey McCutcheon lived in Russellville, and led the Chapter to social prominence as well as setting a pace in scholarship. He was probably the most popular and beloved member in the Chapter's history. During years of conspicuous political activity in Kentucky, he remained an enthusiastic devotee of Sigma Nu.

The fellowship enjoyed by the members of Omicron Chapter was of the ideal character. Their surroundings were adapted to admit the fullest appreciation of fraternity relationships. There were no diverting influences in the town. The ambitions of the Chapter members merged in scholarship attainment, in literary society activities and in the social life of the community. Some remarkable grades were registered by the members. Altsheler made a general average above 99 per cent for two years. McCutcheon averaged 99.65 per cent

the year the Chapter was organized. Philip Andrews, an initiate the second year, made 99.35 per cent average. Sidney Ernest Bradshaw, taken in during the Chapter's third year, equaled Altsheler's record of 99.85 per cent. During the Chapter's first year King won the gold medal in the English department, and Altsheler won the freshman gold medal for scholarship. Miller was anniversary orator for the Philomathic Society; Frazer for Neotrophean; and Coles was valedictorian of the senior class.

The highest tribute to the zeal of Omicron Chapter in its fraternity relationships is the record of its members in furthering the advancement of Sigma Nu. Two of the early members were founders of new Chapters, and one assisted in a revival. The limitations of Bethel College left it behind in the development of institutions of higher learning; but in the personnel of the Chapter as collegians and as representative of what the name fraternity implies, the record of that first-year Omicron Chapter survives as a standard.

Two more Chapters were added to the second line of Lambda's descendants following the founding of Omicron Chapter. Coincident circumstances in the founding of Zeta at Central University and Epsilon at Bethany College had a sequel in the fact that these twin offshoots of Lambda added consecutive Chapters to the roll of Sigma Nu. While Martin, first-year initiate of Zeta, was planning the establishment which resulted in Omicron Chapter, Charles W. Lohse, charter member of Epsilon, was contemplating a founding which became Pi Chapter. Lohse entered Lehigh University in the fall of 1884 to take the course in civil engineering. He had been the most active spirit in the first year of Epsilon's abbreviated career, and he carried with him into the North the interest he had acquired in the welfare of Sigma Nu. Soon after matriculating at Lehigh, Lohse wrote to Vice Regent Howard and to General Secretary Robinson regarding the attitude of the Fraternity toward the establishment of a Chapter there. Enthusiastic support was promised, and Lohse agreed to undertake the task in December, when he hoped to pass tests for sophomore entrance, preparation for which prevented his giving earlier effort.

Lehigh University was established at South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in 1865, through large endowments from Hon. Asa Packard for the purpose of affording "the young men of the Lehigh Valley a complete technical education". Entrance requirements were made high in order to secure students with a good general education. The government of the University was vested in a Board of Trustees under the auspices of the Episcopal Church. Fraternity life at Lehigh began five years after its founding, the Greeks getting a firm footing there from the start. In the order of their establishment, the fraternities which preceded Sigma Nu were Phi Kappa Sigma, 1870; Chi Phi, 1872; Delta Tau Delta, 1874; Phi Delta Theta, 1876; Alpha Tau Omega, 1882; Delta Phi, Psi Upsilon and Theta Delta Chi, 1884; and Delta Upsilon, 1885.

During the second half of the college year 1884-85, Lohse set himself to the work of pledging associates for the organization of the new Chapter. Remembering the fate of Epsilon after the failure of her first-year members to return, Lohse determined to guard against this mishap at Lehigh by confining

his selections to members of the freshman class, whose intentions were to return to complete the four-year course. His success is evidenced by the remarkable record of the five men he chose to come in with him as charter members. All of them remained associated throughout the four-year course, and were graduated in the class of 1888. The charter members of Pi Chapter were Charles W. Lohse, Reuben Daniels, Adolph T. Bruegel, Charles D. Marshall, Sterry



PACKER HALL
Historic Building at Lehigh University as it appeared when Pi Chapter of Sigma Nu was established there in 1885.

H. Jencks and Howard H. McClintic. The first chapter letter which was written by Lohse, in the fall of 1885, gives insight into the workings of the group.

"Although somewhat isolated, we feel united by the bonds of Sigma Nu. There were many obstacles in our way, and now, since we have overcome them, we have not only strengthened the fraternal feeling existing between us, but have the gratification of knowing that each contributed to the successful establishment of Pi. Our work is not yet finished, yet we have no fears of its fortunate completion, and hence take this earliest opportunity to greet our sister Chapters. Pi is still *sub rosa*, not through fear of other fraternities, for I think



PI CHAPTER, LEHIGH UNIVERSITY, 1886-87

Reading left to right, standing—Augustus C. Spotts, affiliate from Alpha; Frank W. Ritchie; Richard H. Morris; Reuben Daniels, charter member; Charles W. Lohse, affiliate from Epsilon, founder of Pi, and charter member No. 1; Charles D. Marshall, charter member. Sitting—Simon S. Martin; Howard H. McClintic, charter member; William A. Stevenson, first initiate; Adolph T. Bruegel, charter member; Amos D. Kennedy; Sterry H. Jencks, charter member.

we are known to several of them, but because we desire to make our appearance with a larger number than we now have."

A chapter letter written by Charles D. Marshall reveals Pi Chapter's beginning:

"Lehigh Chapter made itself known on December 21, 1885, under very discouraging circumstances, having been under very great expense. When the Chapter came out, every man had a pin of his own and was a subscriber to *The Delta*. It was not long until we had one initiate, which gave encouragement, together with the satisfaction of not getting two men we had asked, they having to leave college on account of deficiencies."

William A. Stevenson was taken in before the Chapter revealed itself publicly, and William C. McLeod and Richard H. Morris were initiated during Pi's first year. In the chapter letter published in the spring of 1886, Lohse wrote:

"The true fraternal feeling is awakened in us more fully since our officers are elected and the first meeting in business-like manner held. We are now beginning to comprehend the meaning of fraternity in the full sense. We have overcome all obstacles this far, and if fortune favors us in the future as in the past, Pi's success is assured. We are glad to notice the interest taken by our sister Chapters in our welfare."

Greetings from other Chapters, to which Lohse referred, were inspired by the ever-thoughtful Robinson, who was General Secretary of Sigma Nu at the time the Lehigh charter was granted. Upon the advent of each new Chapter, Robinson broadcast the suggestion that letters of welcome would quicken appreciation of the newly chartered group for the ties of Brotherhood that bound them to Sigma Nu.

The progress of Pi Chapter, during its first year, was marked by the patience and conservatism that has governed its conduct since its beginning. Fraternity rivalries were so acute during the early development of Sigma Nu that sometimes the mistake was made of trying to secure instant prestige by selecting members whose achievements were flashy, and not really representative of a high chapter standard. The policy of Pi Chapter is stated in the last *Delta* letter of its first year.

"We have not added any new names to our roll lately, but the fact is not due to the lack of vigor. A rapid growth often reflects discreditably upon a new Chapter, and while our prospects are encouraging, we believe in increasing our roll by degrees."

Six members were added to the Chapter during the year 1886-87, one of whom, Augustus C. Spotts, was an affiliate from Alpha. A hall was secured and "elegantly furnished", according to C. D. Marshall's report in *The Delta*. Stevenson, the first man initiated by the charter members, was elected treasurer of his class. James P. Rafferty, initiated during 1887-88, was on the Varsity football team that year, and also was elected vice president of his freshman class. Charles D. Marshall, charter member, was elected to Tau Beta Pi. Howard McClintic, another charter member, became Vice President of his

senior class, was captain of the Lehigh baseball team that year, and vice president of the Engineering Society.

A moral from the record of these two charter members is observed in the fact that they had been overlooked by the other fraternities at Lehigh, while as freshmen they were laying the foundation for their future achievements. Lohse proceeded more thoughtfully than was the general practice of fraternities in pledging, and he recognized in this pair of students the elements of successful leadership, as well as instincts of fellowship. The relationship of these two men is noteworthy, since through their fraternity association was formed an attachment that led to business partnership, resulting in their becoming millionaires in the McClintic-Marshall Construction Company. A magnificent chapter house, erected at Lehigh in later years, was a token of appreciation for the pleasure and benefit they received as members of Pi Chapter.



CHARLES MERCER SNELLING
A notable leader of old Alpha at the time when the antifraternity ruling decreed the passing of the Mother Chapter of Sigma Nu.

The establishment of this second Northern Chapter completed the most successful year of extension the Fraternity had experienced. This productive period, which began coincident with the meeting of the First Convention, embraced the revival of Theta at Alabama, the founding of Nu at Kansas, Xi at Emory, Omicron at Bethel and Pi at Lehigh. The impetus responsible for these important developments emanated from Lexington, Virginia, and marked the end of the direct influence which for fifteen years had made the birthplace of Sigma Nu the center of its administrative and energizing activities. Hand in hand, Alpha and Lambda had taken up the waning cause of Sigma Nu after the end of the first decade, and, with Robinson the creative genius principally responsible for the result, the Fraternity had been led beyond the perils of a circumscribed existence to an unbounded sphere of development. Now, side by side, these two Chapters went into the shadows of misfortune, Lambda almost losing her way while bidding Alpha farewell.

At the V. M. I. finals in the spring of 1885, the Board of Visitors inserted a clause in the matriculation pledge which prohibited new students from joining any secret society. This prevented further initiation, but for two years Alpha maintained an organization for fellowship and for partici-

pation as a Chapter in the general activities of the Fraternity. During Alpha's last year prior to this antifraternity action, Alexander Fitzgerald had been Commander of the Chapter. He was adjutant of the Corps that year, and was very popular among the cadets. The much beloved "Jack" Winston, who had made the heroic address before the Board of Visitors that had postponed for a year the edict against fraternities, was also a firstclassman that year, with rank of captain. He was also winner of valedictorian honors. The distinguished Charles M. Snelling, who had been graduated with rank of captain the previous year, returned as assistant professor of mathematics, and was a source of guidance and inspiration to the Chapter. His letter to *The Delta*, just before graduation, reflected the depth of feeling he had for Sigma Nu. Urging greater alumni effort to co-ordinate the growing chapter strength, he insisted:

"All we want is effort, organized effort, and we are bound to succeed. Sigma Nu is now upon a solid foundation. She has successfully passed the critical period; but we must not be satisfied until we have placed her in the front rank. Let each man look to himself; see if there is not something he is able to do. Let us remember we are now building what is to be a noble structure. In after time when Sigma Nu shall shine forth in the world a tower of strength and beauty, let each man be able to say: 'I contributed my share. She owes some of her glory to me'."

Sigma Nu owes much of the glory of Alpha that year to Charles M. Snelling. With Fitzgerald and Winston, he helped to pledge a fine group of initiates who carried Alpha's colors triumphantly until the last man left. Before Snelling departed from Lexington in the summer of 1885, he carried to the McCrum home for safe keeping the strong box which Hampton Wade had provided for the records of Alpha, upon whose minute book had been written "Finis". Five members returned for the year 1885-86, James M. Redfield, C. Francis McCord. William Tazewell Pierce, Simeon K. Owens and Augustus C. Spotts, "all of whom hold offices in the Corps, which is more than any other fraternity can say", Spotts wrote in a chapter letter. All these members had been initiated the previous year excepting Spotts, who was a firstclassman and a first lieutenant.

The collapse of Lambda came in this college year of 1885-86. There had been forebodings of reduced strength the previous year, owing to a falling off in the attendance of Washington and Lee University. But extreme disaster had not then been anticipated. Eight men returned in the fall of 1884, a group of sterling worth headed by the veterans Robinson and Hugh McCrum, and including Edwin A. and James H. Sturgis, brothers from Waco, Texas; John F. Clay, of Kentucky, brother of Hume Clay, much loved charter member of Lambda; James Kimbrough Jones, son of U. S. Senator Jones, of Arkansas; James W. Warren, of Alabama; and William R. Ashby, of Maryland. The first chapter letter that college year stated:

"With such a fine opening Lambda confidently expected to accomplish a great deal this year; but thus far we have initiated only one man, William Murray Robertson, Fayette, Alabama. Brother Robertson entered well in his class, is a good student, and promises to add honor and dignity to Lambda,

and to reflect credit upon the Sigma Nu Order. Our want of success in obtaining members this year is not due to apathy, or want of interest on the part of our men, every one of whom has the advancement of Sigma Nu at heart; but it is on account of the poor material from which we have to select. Washington and Lee has the greater part of its old men back this year, but the freshmen are few, and as a rule not up to the standard which our University has been collecting within its walls for some time past. Notwithstanding the fact that there are eight or nine fraternities represented here, only six or seven men have been initiated this year."

The final chapter letter of that year reported:

"The session is now drawing to a close, and we regret not being able to report the addition of another member. There have been so few freshmen this year to select from. However, we have done as well as the other fraternities, as our freshman—Robertson—is by far the best man taken in by any fraternity here this year; and as he will be back several years. we are assured the future interest of Sigma Nu will be in good hands."

Fortunately, this was no idle boast, for William Murray Robertson became the savior of Lambda, and rendered service of great importance to Sigma Nu elsewhere. At the opening of the college year 1885-86, only James Sturgis matriculated. On account of illness, Robertson was late in returning. When he arrived, the struggle of the other fraternities to augment their depleted ranks from the limited number of freshmen left little hope for Sigma Nu. Robertson located one good prospect, Edward R. Martin, of Kansas City, Missouri, who was the only initiate during that college year. These three Lambda members joined forces with Alpha's five remaining members, rented a hall and organized for the remainder of the year with the following officers: McCord, Commander; Martin, Lieutenant Commander; Spotts, Princeps Justicia; Owens, Scribe; Robertson, Treasurer; and Sturgis, Doorkeeper. Redfield and Pierce completed this emergency combination. Martin wrote the joint chapter letter which concluded with the following paragraph:

"We had our semi-annual banquet on New Year's Day. The table was groaning under the weight of its delicacies, but it was soon relieved by the sharp appetites of the cadets."

This was the last joint "bug supper" at Lexington. "Bug men" was the V. M. I. term for fraternity Brothers. The Lambda men had also adopted for their reunion banquets the name of "bug suppers". Thus was celebrated in Lexington the seventeenth birthday of Sigma Nu, the last to be shared by members of the Mother Chapter. Redfield, Owens and McCord returned to V. M. I. the next year, and Dallas Flannagan came back to be graduated; but the joint Chapter did not again organize. Robertson and Martin expected to return to Washington and Lee, but Robertson later decided to enter the University of Virginia, and Edward R. Martin was the only member of Lambda Chapter to return in the fall of 1886. He arrived late and succeeded in pledging but one freshman, Bixby Willis, of Kansas City, Missouri. Clarence Wainwright Murphey was visiting in Lexington, and with Hugh McCrum helped Martin initiate Willis. Only one other member, William S. Cavitt, was taken

in during that year, and Lambda had but a nominal existence. Three of the fraternities at Washington and Lee had but one member each that year, two others had but three members, and three had six members each. Willis wrote in the chapter letter:

"With great regret we feel compelled to state that Washington and Lee Chapter lives solely in anticipation of the future."

For Alpha there was no such hope. Redfield was graduated that year as first captain, and with the gold medal for athletic supremacy. The next year only Simeon Keaton Owens returned, the sole survivor of old Alpha. He, too, won the highest honor of the Corps, having been graduated in 1888 as first captain. Thus, with colors flying, the end came. In *The Delta*, Vol. III, No. 3, John Alexander Howard wrote the last record:

"Alpha, our Mother, has succumbed. Ever a thoughtful and kindly Mother she has been. Her children have been our most active and earnest workers, and her alumni have universally reflected credit upon us. Our Brothers of the V. M. I. have our heartfelt sympathy."

During the sixteen years from the date of founding of Sigma Nu to the year the antifraternity rule was imposed, Alpha Chapter had initiated one hundred and thirty-one members. Seventy-six of these members, almost sixty per cent, had been graduated. Twelve of the seventy-six men were recorded on the roll of distinguished graduates of V. M. I. Fifty-five per cent of these graduates had received commissioned offices in the Corps. Eighteen were captains, nineteen were lieutenants, three were adjutants, and two were quartermasters. Three had won first honors in scholarship, and eight had been retained as assistant professors.

Of the trio of Chapters for which *The Delta* had been named, Kappa at Dahlonega was the only one prospering at this time. In the three-year period embracing Alpha's ending and Lambda's decline, Kappa had initiated thirty-six men, and had continued winning the most coveted college honors. *The Delta*, however, was in desperate straits. John Howard was devoting himself almost entirely to the work of the Fraternity and without remuneration. Disregarding the detriment to his own welfare, he struggled heroically to keep *The Delta* going and to build up the functional organism of the Fraternity. He was the detail man of that time, the only one pursuing the essentials that demanded constant application of time and the outlay of money, which was not forthcoming from subscriptions sufficient for the need of *The Delta*. The magazine was far in advance of the Fraternity's circumstances, but it was the only tangible asset that supported the claim for new Chapters.

Howard made personal sacrifices to enable him to produce a publication that would detract from shortcomings of Sigma Nu which could only be overcome in time. The First Convention had voted Howard reimbursement for his loss up to that date. There were no funds in the treasury and the obligation was assumed by the delegates in behalf of their respective Chapters. In the vicissitudes of Chapter conduct of that period, this liability was lost sight of or was neglected, and the amount continued to increase.

The First Convention also had authorized Howard to proceed with the publi-

ΣΙΓΜΑ ΝΥ FRATERNITY.

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C. H. WEBB, DAHLONEGA, GA.
Σ N HALL, N. G. A. COLLEGE, DAHLONEGA, GEORGIA

DEAR BROTHER:

The Σ N Fraternity feeling a great need of a Catalogue, it was ordered by the last Convention that the several chapters furnish their quota of material, Kappa chapter has resorted to this medium to secure all the information possible. In especial we hope to make the Catalogue complete in every particular, and we trust that you will kindly fill as completely as may be the blanks below, for the return of which we enclose directed envelope. The success of this movement depends very materially upon your help, and we earnestly hope that you will give this your prompt attention, and thereby aid in publishing a Catalogue that will be a credit to Σ N

1. Give full name. (Use no initials.) Walter Erskine Lamar

2. Give present occupation and address. Give permanent address. If living in city, give street and number. Teaching ? Gainesville Ga. Permanent Augusta, Ga

3. If graduated, state when, giving degree: If not, state when would have graduated. Would have graduated 1883

4. If attended any college, other than that in which chapter is located, give name, years, inclusively, with class. Mercer Univ. 1 Year & Sophister 1881 81

5. Name all honors medals and distinctions taken in college, giving years. Three Orations Junior Exhibition 1881 & 2 Orations Senior Exhibition 1882 Junior Speaker's prize 1881 Senior Speaker's prize 1882 Places 83 82 84 Two of which were taken by Editor

6. If taken any degrees, whether in course, honorary, medical, divinity or other schools give degree, when conferred

7. If principal of any school, or teacher, professor, trustee, of any college, state what, and give years inclusive. Principal of Hendrick Academy, a high school, 86

8. Give name of papers, magazines or other publications edited, or connected, stating when

9. If ever held any civil office, State, municipal, county or other office, state what, and give years inclusive

a. If a minister, give denomination, and name the charges held since entering the ministry, with dates

b. If ever an orator of any Σ N Convention, give date and place.

c. If ever held any official position under any large corporation, state name, with years inclusive

d. If married, give in full, date of marriage and maiden name in full of wife. Not Married

e. Give name, chapter, and class of any near relative, stating whether brother, cousin etc. ever a Σ N

n. As to deceased Σ N, give time, place, manner and particulars of decease.

HOWARD'S CATALOGUE CIRCULAR

Specimen of blank sent out by the Founder of *The Delta* in his effort to compile a Sigma Nu catalogue.

cation of a catalogue, but before he could produce it the preliminary work and the increasing *Delta* deficit exhausted his personal means. Howard's catalogue effort represented a great deal of labor and expense. Circularizing the membership involved tedious procedure, since Chapter records had been neglected, and tracing the lost members was very difficult. This work was not completed, but it was certainly not in vain. John Howard's spirit of optimism for Sigma Nu followed every communication he sent out, stimulating the interest and encouraging respect for the Fraternity among its members.

The catalogue was a need, but not pressing like the necessity for publishing *The Delta* regularly and creditably. Howard concentrated his energy and his means on the magazine. From every direction he received letters of appreciation, and assertions that *The Delta* must not fail. But from only a few he received the material assistance needed. Lambda's support was loyal. The amounts contributed seem trivial, but they show upon what small resources *The Delta* was dependent. Two letters from James W. Warren, Lambda's *Delta* correspondent during 1884-85, evidenced the maximum of Chapter support that Howard received.

"We send $1.60 to help you along. This was left over after we paid for our annual dinner. We are looking out for the next issue, and hope you have succeeded in getting enough subscribers to keep our magazine going".

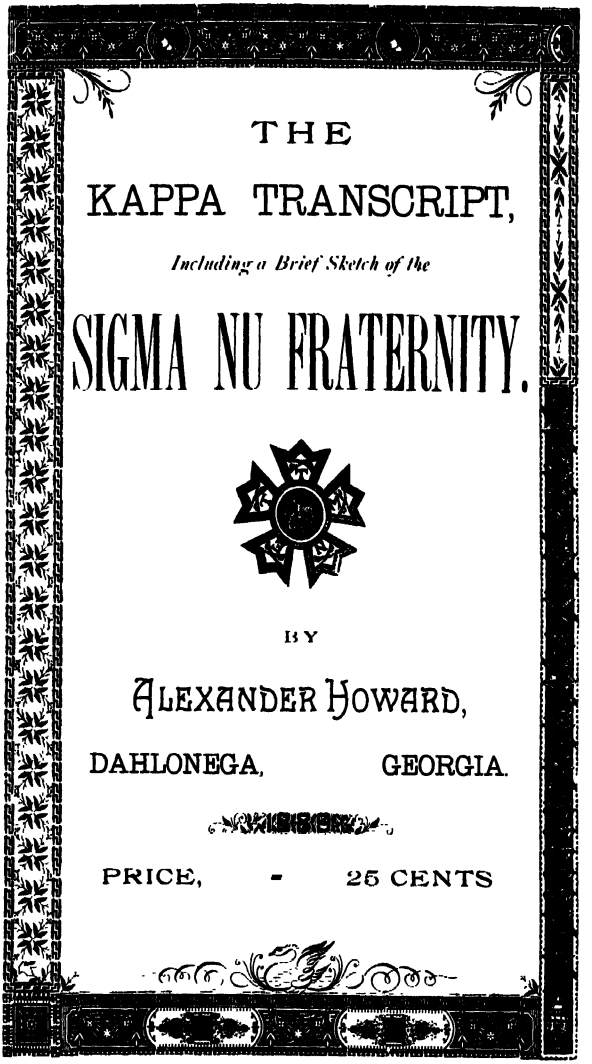
Warren previously had written to Howard:

"I noticed in the copy of *The Delta* you sent Brother Robinson that the magazine was 'financially embarrassed'. Consequently I bestirred myself, and succeeded in raising $8.00 for subscriptions. I hope this will help you along. We certainly ought not to allow *The Delta* to go under for want of funds. I think I could get some of the men to pay double the subscription price, if you need the money."

The Delta for November, 1884, consisted of but eight pages. Previous issues that year had averaged twenty-six pages. Upon the first page appeared the announcement:

"We regret very much that we are not able to give our usual number of pages for this *Delta*. We have several reasons; the principal one is, we did not have the money, and if subscriptions continue to come in as slowly as they have, *The Delta* will be no more after our next issue. We are determined to send forth one more issue at our own expense, and we expect it to contain not less than forty-eight well-filled pages of interesting reading matter. We request the corresponding editors to be prompt and send in their respective reports by the first of January, 1885."

The expectations of the Editor were not realized to the extent of producing a forty-eight page magazine, but the increased size was almost five-fold, thirty-seven pages constituting the February, 1885, *Delta*. It was seven months before another *Delta* appeared. Number One of Volume III, September, 1885, indicated that Howard had produced new sources of revenue, partially explained by a page of advertisements. The income was still insufficient to support *The Delta*, but by some means John Howard sustained it until the meeting of the Second Convention. He was unable to attend this convention because he



COVER PAGE OF KAPPA TRANSCRIPT

After yielding to circumstances that prevented further sacrifice in maintaining *The Delta*, John Alexander Howard, Founder of *The Delta*, indulged in fondness for fraternity journalism by publishing several issues of the *Kappa Transcript*, a magazine devoted principally to the interests of Kappa Chapter, but containing valuable historical records of the general fraternity. In an issue of this publication was preserved the heroic appeal of Commander Omohundro, of Alpha, which restored harmonious relationship with Kappa Chapter.

had not the money to pay his expenses. He had put all he had in *The Delta*, disregarding personal consequences until it cost him the loss of his sole ambition—service for Sigma Nu. He gave up *The Delta* for others to maintain, be-



JOHN ALEXANDER HOWARD
Founder and first Editor of *The Delta* of Sigma Nu.

cause he could not longer support it to the neglect of his own livelihood. He gave it up resignedly, but remorsefully, regretting that he had not more to sacrifice. He went through life with a heart-ache, conscious of his inability to indulge his longing for this work, and never content with any other occupation. The consummate devotion of John Alexander Howard to Sigma Nu was appalling to those who realized its intensity, its exactment, its consequences. Truly he was a martyr to the cause he loved.

CHAPTER XIV

De Fraternitate

THE processes of evolution in the history of Sigma Nu were attended by striking evidences of an influence which seemed to provide against every emergency, persisting in its ordination that the Fraternity was destined to survive and prosper. In the cycles of fortune which brought recurring periods of threatened disaster, each foreboding of calamity was accompanied by some developments that presaged prosperity, and so adversity only proved to be a stimulus to greater effort. Out of each crisis came greater strength and new leaders. After each relapse the Fraternity was carried to higher levels of achievement.

The approach of John Howard's limit of sacrifice brought also the end of Robinson's intensive service. In the fall of 1885, Robinson was forced by business necessities to resign as General Secretary of Sigma Nu, an office to which he had been elected at the First Convention the previous year, but the functions of which he had actually performed since the date of his initiation. Perlee Rawson Bennett, of Nu Chapter, was selected as Robinson's successor, and at once the force of Bennett's vigorous energy began to assert its influence in the councils of the Fraternity. At that time the potency of Grand Treasurer Langton's ability began to be apparent in a broader manifestation of its influence. In *The Delta*, September, 1885, there was published a studied survey by Langton setting forth his views relative to extension. In his attitude was evidenced the Yankee conservatism inherited from his father, leaning toward the policies of the so-called exclusive Eastern fraternities rather than approving the conduct of those more progressive organizations developed west of the Alleghenies. Langton declared he favored "extension in all directions, north. east, south and west, abhorring on general principles anything that savors of sectionalism". Nevertheless, his treatise dwelt mainly on the situation in the East. The difficulties there to be encountered were admitted, but with the following conclusion:

"Such obstacles should not daunt us. Have we not already surmounted difficulties almost as great? We would have to buckle on our strongest armor and contend most valiantly. But in effecting such extension, let us not be too eager. Let us proceed slowly, but surely. While there are preponderating arguments in favor of our entering the 'strongholds of mandarins', as Phi Delta Theta terms the Eastern colleges, there are certain strong arguments against trying to run before we can walk."

In the next issue of *The Delta*, following that in which Langton's views ap-

peared, Rawson Bennett contributed the leading article under the heading, *De Fraternitate.* Bennett had entered the University of Michigan in the fall of 1885. At that place he was given opportunity to indulge his fancy for the study of fraternities, and to meditate upon their policies. Bennett was as pronounced in his regard for the West, as the logical field for development of Sigma Nu, as Langton was interested in Eastern invasion. The trend of Bennett's argument is indicated in these paragraphs from his article:

"I agree, in the main, with Brother Langton on the institutions that we should strive to enter, but I desire to emphasize the fact that we must 'not attempt to run before we can walk'. We should have good strong Chapters in colleges close at hand before we attempt to enter those at a distance.

"From a pretty careful study of Eastern and Western men, I am strongly of the opinion that our safest way lies through the West to the East. The great Eastern colleges tend too much to a *local* spirit; the Eastern man is much more a member of his particular Chapter than of the fraternity at large.

"The Sigma Nu Fraternity has in the last five years made wonderful, and I think, enduring progress. Yet we have but *begun* the work. A vast country lies before us for our conquest. Now, of all the work before us, what should engage our attention between now and the next convention, and at the meeting of that body? In the way of extension, two things—to fill up the gaps in our Southern roll, and to extend into the chief colleges of the West."

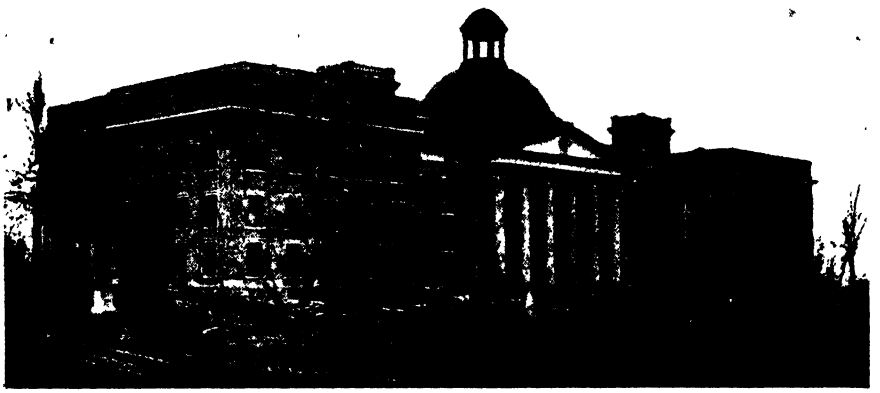
Then followed a detailed plan of action embracing institutions in this course, through the South, into the West to the Coast, and back to the Central Western field which Bennett regarded with the following misgivings:

"The State University of Indiana is in a somewhat doubtful condition, undermined by numerous denominational colleges nearly equal in size, and overshadowed by the wealth and prestige of DePauw. The latter seems at present overcrowded with fraternities, but will bear watching. Ohio is a ticklish place, on account of the way in which state aid is divided and scattered. The University of Michigan is *facile princeps* of all colleges west of the Alleghenies, and certainly not one that Sigma Nu can afford to pass by. But on the other hand, the Eastern fraternity, with its local club idea, is here in force. The chapter house system also prevails. The only safe way to establish in Michigan at present, at least, is by immigration or consolidation. We have gained a foothold in Pennsylvania; it must be maintained, for it is the sharp end of the wedge that will drive a way into the great Eastern colleges. If any exceptional opportunity presents itself, let it be seized, but I think the above sketch presents the safest course for ordinary circumstances."

Comparing the surveys of Langton and Bennett, there was not at that time any great difference in their attitude toward the ultimate destiny of Sigma Nu as a representative national fraternity. The variance in their views was as to what course this development should take in the beginning. These two *Delta* articles are of great significance, inasmuch as they marked the beginning of a contest between two elements in Sigma Nu, which sought for several years the expression of their conflicting opinions in the extension policy of the Fraternity. Langton and Bennett became the leaders of these opposing elements, and the

balance that the one side operated against the other had a steadying influence on the development of Sigma Nu. The issue did not at once become involved in the official decisions of these two leaders, since the opportunities arising in the first half of the year 1886 found Langton and Bennett wholly in accord.

In January, 1886, Rho Chapter was founded at the University of Missouri by George R. McVey, of Epsilon Chapter. McVey had been initiated at Bethany College by his room-mate Charles W. Lohse, charter member of Epsilon and founder of Pi Chapter at Lehigh University, which had emerged from *sub rosa* status only a month before Rho Chapter was established. For more than a year McVey had been considering the prospect for a Chapter in Missouri, the matter having been urged upon him by Bennett and Harrington soon after Nu Chapter at the University of Kansas had been established. The effort was finally in-



UNIVERSITY BUILDING
Main building of University of Missouri as it appeared when Rho Chapter was established in 1886. Destroyed by fire in 1892.

duced through the action of John Alexander Howard, then Vice Regent and Editor of *The Delta*, who secured a charter for McVey, and agreed to pay the expense of a personal investigation.

The University of Missouri, the oldest state university west of the Mississippi River, was founded in 1859 at Columbia, then a town of about four thousand inhabitants. Its people were principally of Kentucky and Virginia extraction, noted for their culture and high moral character. The University met with small success until 1870, when it had a regeneration that insured its future prosperity. The first fraternity entered about that time, Phi Kappa Psi establishing a Chapter there in 1869. It did not survive antagonism, and after a few years of troublous existence the Chapter became inactive. Phi Delta Theta found similar opposition when it entered in 1870, but succeeded in getting a permanent foothold. Zeta Phi, a local, was also organized in 1870, and became strongly entrenched, especially in its resident affiliations. For several years these two organizations contended successfully against difficulties, rivalry

between them having been limited, due to the fact that the Phi Delts embraced mostly "digs," the term applied to those who concentrated on scholarship effort, while the Zeta Phis were more active socially. These two organizations shared a desire to keep other fraternities from entering the University, and with their growing influence augmenting the unofficial attitude of the Board of Curators against fraternities, they kept the field to themselves for many years. Sigma Alpha Epsilon established a Chapter there in 1884, but because of surrounding prejudice and internal troubles did not become a contender during its early years.

There were over four hundred students at the University of Missouri during the year 1885-86, when McVey determined to establish Sigma Nu. McVey lived at Sedalia, Missouri, and was quite familiar with the peculiar situation



CAMPUS AND BUILDINGS, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
Reproduced from *The Delta*, February, 1894. The columns in the center of the picture mark the ruins of University Building, burned in 1892.

discouraging the entrance of more fraternities at the University. An overwhelming majority of students were actively antagonistic, supported by passive faculty opposition and fostered by the Phi Delts and Zeta Phis, who were securely established. McVey went to Columbia early in January, 1886. Pretending to be an insurance solicitor, he mingled among the students for three days without his object becoming revealed. By this ruse he made the acquaintance of a Phi Delt from whom he learned the names of the leading non-fraternity students not active in the antifraternity warfare. McVey pursued intimacy with this Phi Delt while at Columbia, and found that his personal attitude was not opposed to the entrance of another fraternity. Five men were invited by McVey to participate in the formation of a Chapter of Sigma Nu, and all accepted. They were John M. Evans, Julian H. Pearson, George L. Belcher,

Robert E. Downing and William D. Magruder, the charter members of Rho Chapter.

The threat of an official ban against fraternities was hanging over the situation at that time, with a promise of definite developments during the month. McVey decided not to initiate the pledges until the result of this crisis was determined. He went back home, and upon receiving assurances later in the month that fears had been dispelled, he returned to Columbia and initiated the charter members, remaining with them two days to help them organize. The initiation was held in Downing's room, where McVey instructed the members singly. Other meetings were held in Evans's room. There was hesitancy among the initiates about revealing their fraternity connection until they gained more



FOUNDER AND CHARTER MEMBERS OF RHO CHAPTER, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
Seated—George R. McVey, Epsilon, founder; Robert E. Downing; William D. Magruder. Standing—Julian H. Pearson; George L. Belcher; John M. Evans.

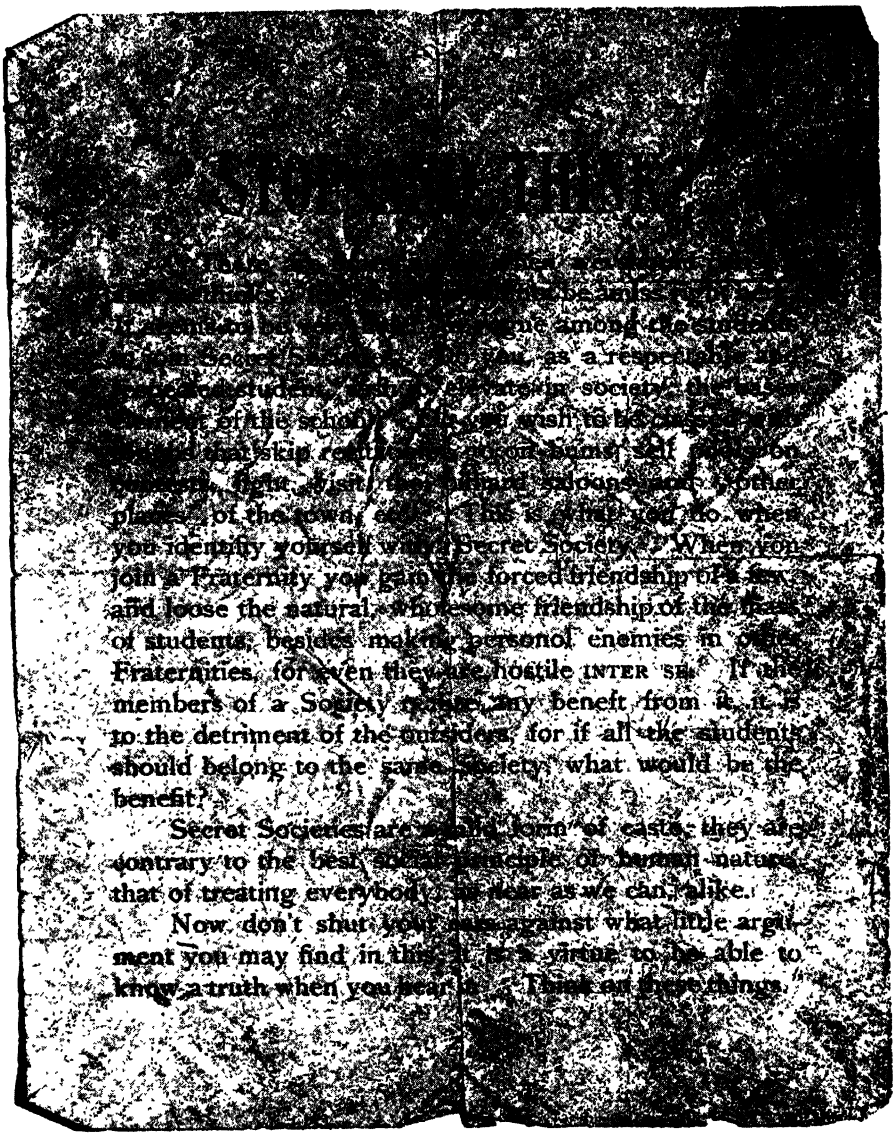
strength and confidence. But McVey insisted that *sub rosa* activity would be an admission of weakness, and he declared that conditions would never be more favorable than at that time. His advice prevailed, and the members wearing the colors pinned upon their coat lapels were paraded down Broadway by McVey, whose Sigma Nu badge was proudly exposed. The crowd gathered at the Post Office was startled by the audacity of the new Greeks, whose courage proved their salvation, as McVey had predicted, creating admiration instead of scorn. The first to congratulate them was McVey's Phi Delt acquaintance who had unwittingly rendered invaluable assistance, and who pledged them a fair field. This led other Greeks to similar expression, or at least to tacit acquiescence. A very helpful relationship with Phi Delta Theta prevailed the remainder of that college year.

The initiation of Rho's charter members took place on January 26, 1886.

Before the month ended, Henry S. Heitzeberg and Joseph F. Paxton were made members. Four others were initiated during the remainder of that college year, making a total of eleven members in this first-year Chapter. Evans was made a captain in the military department, which that year was incorporated as a unit of the State militia. Heitzeberg was a lieutenant that year, later becoming senior captain, and serving as head of the department in the absence of the commandant. Belcher represented the Athenean Literary Society in its first intercollegiate contest. Downing won the declaimer's medal in 1886, and later won second honor in the intercollegiate preliminary contest. Joseph F. Paxton, during his collegiate career, won two first prizes for English essays; first prizes in both Greek and Latin; was Editor of *Argus*, and of the *Pan-Hellenic;* was honored with *summa cum laude* degree; and was valedictorian of his class. He remained at the University as assistant professor of Latin, and served as secretary of the faculty. Julian Pearson was the first of Rho's missionaries to found a Chapter. Evans also became a Chapter founder. Magruder became the first president of the Missouri Sigma Nu Alumni Association. These first-year members set a pace for aggressive loyalty in Sigma Nu which Rho Chapter has consistently maintained.

The patronizing attitude of Phi Delta Theta was reversed the second year of Rho Chapter. The old Phi Delt-Zeta Phi compact was renewed when Sigma Nu showed itself a real contender against their domination of the fraternity situation at the University. These two rivals had avoided serious conflict between themselves for two years, one concentrating on scholastic achievement, the other more concerned about its social standing. Sigma Nu had ambitions in both directions, and, therefore, drew the combined opposition of these older fraternities. Eight pledges of superior merit were captured by Rho the second year, the Chapter thus proving its ability against the Greek combination, although with considerable bitterness engendered. The intense rivalry continued for several years, the feud between Sigma Nu and Zeta Phi having been inherited by Beta Theta Pi when that fraternity absorbed this old local. The conflict culminated in the theft of a ritual, causing a heated newspaper controversy between the Sigma Nus and the Betas. At times this interfraternity bitterness was repressed in self-defense. The "barb" antagonism to fraternities at the University of Missouri created much more trouble for the Greek-letter organizations than they made for one another. This element, which in later years became known as the "Ag-Engineer Combine", represented the largest schools in the University, and rarely permitted fraternity men to hold class offices. Sigma Nu drew principally from the law department, one of the smallest but one of the most famous of the University's schools, attaining a Class A rating along with the leading law colleges of the country. The "barbs" one year passed out among incoming students a handbill containing a caustic indictment against fraternities.

The fraternities had to resort to strategy and to extreme measures on the rare occasions when they predominated over the heavy majority of the militant "barbs." One year in the affairs of the Athenean Literary Society, the contest between the two factions had been unusually close. The vice president had



A "BARB" INJUNCTION

Handbill passed out to University of Missouri students soon after the establishment of Rho Chapter, typifying the feeling that existed against fraternities at that time.

been permitted to go to a fraternity man, but the "barbs" kept the advantage by having the presidency. At the approach of the time for the next election of officers, the fraternity men figured that they could control the Athenean Society if they had the strategic power of the presiding officer. They obtained this by kidnapping the president as he was on his way to the meeting, carrying him to an old frame building used for the medical department, where he was guarded while the vice president presided over the election of officers. The arbitrary rulings of the vice president favoring fraternities enabled the Greeks to get what they wanted at that election. Naturally, this coup was not conducive to better feeling toward the fraternities. But only by such methods could the Greeks gain representation to which they believed their members were entitled.

In society activities, Rho Chapter early made its mark, and contested supremacy for many years with the Phi Delts and Betas, their strongest rivals. The old Haden Opera House was the scene of the final effort to outshine one another in a commencement ball. The auditorium was partly floored over to provide space for quadrilles and lancers, for the schottische and the waltz. Elaborate decorative effects were arranged for this annual social climax. "Pinning" the most admired girls and winning sweethearts from fraternity rivals added zest and acrimony to social rivalry of that day. An old record book, containing accounts of Rho Chapter's early trials and triumphs, reveals interesting incidents in the interfraternity relationships of that period, among them the following:

"About this time the petition of the Zetas to be absorbed by the Beta Theta Pis had been accepted, and several bright and shining lights from Felton came over to take them in, which they did with much gusto, leaving out the old Zeta's best man because they couldn't help it, don't you know? We had our eyes open, and when the old frat was buried, placed them on one of their men, and after speaking a few dry words in his ear, as the boys say, we made a Sigma Nu out of him on the same night the others became Betas. Now, there was much stir in the camp of the newly-made Betas over these things, because they lost the man who had won the junior scholarship in the law school, and they placed great store by him.

* * * *

"For a long time we have felt the need of more young ladies of the town to sing our praises, and that for awhile occupied most of our spare time. Then up spoke brave Hiram Jackson Groves, and announced that he would win the affection of Miss Mary O. for Sigma Nu, or die in the attempt. Now this was an exceedingly audacious statement, as Miss O. had been a loyal Phi for several years, and had a sweetheart under their banner. Nevertheless, "Jack" went to work, and in a few weeks the young lady appeared with our beloved cross upon her breast, and a heart warm with affection for Sigma Nu. The Phis wore ghastly smiles in public, and kicked themselves and each other in private."

The early fraternities at the University of Missouri were not looked upon with favor by all the townspeople, and among the officials of Christian College, a girls' school located at Columbia, there was such disregard for fraternity men

that a copy of the following letter, signed by the president of the college, was sent to each of the fraternities.

"I desire to notify the young men of your fraternity that attendance by the young ladies in the boarding department of Christian College upon any fraternity social function, whether of an informal or more elaborate character, is in violation of the rules of the college. An infringement of this rule would subject the young lady to the most arbitrary action of the college authorities. I trust that this may dissipate any doubt that may exist upon the subject, and thus prevent any further invitations, both of an open and a clandestine character, being sent to the young ladies in the college.

"Kindly give this notice an official hearing before your fraternity, and thereby oblige."



JOSEPH F. PAXTON
Second initiate of Rho Chapter, distinguished as a scholar and noted for his devotion to Sigma Nu.

Such extreme disfavor was overcome in a few years, principally through merit displayed by alumni members of the fraternities who became influential leaders in the community and in the University. The influence of Joseph F. Paxton, second initiate of Rho, was an important factor in refuting antifraternity arguments, his fine scholastic record, his connection as a member of the faculty, the constancy of his devotion to his Fraternity combining to make him an ideal fraternity man, and one of the most valuable assets of the early years of Rho Chapter. "Would that all were like him," is an underscored entry in Rho Chapter's early records. Unexcelled in local influence, and in long and valuable service to Rho Chapter, the name of Frederick W. Niedermeyer, another early initiate, stands out nonpareil in nearly forty years of Chapter history. After graduation, Niedermeyer located in Columbia, where he atttained pre-eminence in civic affairs and in educational circles. The pioneers of the University of Missouri Chapter were so conspicuous for luster and loyalty that during its early years Rho was regarded as Sigma Nu's strongest Chapter. Rho's influence throughout the Fraternity was manifest in a marked way.

The founding of Kappa Chapter at North Georgia College gave the Fraternity new hope; the establishment of Lambda at Washington and Lee gave it new inspiration; and the revival of Theta at Alabama gained prestige for Sigma Nu. The advent of Nu Chapter at Kansas instilled courage into the Order; and the birth of Pi at Lehigh created confidence in the future of the Fraternity. There

was something culminating and convincing about the establishment of Rho Chapter that seemed to put stability into the affairs of the Fraternity. The effect of this founding was reassuring to a degree.

Another Chapter came into existence almost simultaneously with Rho, also inspired by John Alexander Howard, and directly resultant from his labor. Delta Chapter, at South Carolina College, later known as the University of South Carolina, had its beginning on January 28, 1886, two days after McVey initiated Rho's charter members. John Howard had previously given the designation of Delta to Chapter IV, the unsuccessful resident venture at Tarboro, North Carolina, chartered under Alpha's dispensation. Howard gave this defunct Chapter a place in the Greek-letter nomenclature when he was desirous of creating a pretentious chapter roll. With a more imposing list of living Chapters, Howard sought to decrease the casualty percentage by applying the designation of the North Carolina failure to the new South Carolina Chapter. Except for proximity in adjoining states, there was no relationship between the old and the new Delta Chapters.



FREDERICK W. NIEDERMEYER
Foremost among alumni patrons of Rho Chapter, University of Missouri, and a prominent figure in national affairs of the Fraternity for a number of years.

The University of South Carolina was chartered by act of the legislature in 1801. It was developed in two separate institutions, South Carolina College, located at Columbia, and South Carolina Military Academy, known as the Citadel, at Charleston. Delta Psi entered South Carolina College in 1850, and Delta Kappa Epsilon in 1852. Neither chapter was revived after the Civil War. Phi Kappa Psi established a chapter there in 1857, followed by Chi Psi in 1858. These two fraternities restored their chapters after wartime inactivity. Beta Theta Pi entered in 1858, and remained dormant after the war. In 1880, Kappa Alpha (S) established a chapter, followed by Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Phi Delta Theta in 1882, and Alpha Tau Omega in 1883. Six fraternities were operating when Sigma Nu entered in 1886.

In his prospecting for new Chapter opportunities, John Howard frequently addressed inquiries to other fraternities. In seeking contact at South Carolina College, he sent a request to the Phi Delta Theta Chapter for the name of a worthy prospect. The letter was handed to William P. Coan, who corresponded with Howard and agreed to make the effort to establish a Chapter of Sigma Nu. Coan soon became discouraged, however, and withdrew his promise. The letter was then handed to Edward H. Anderson, who declined to assume the responsi-

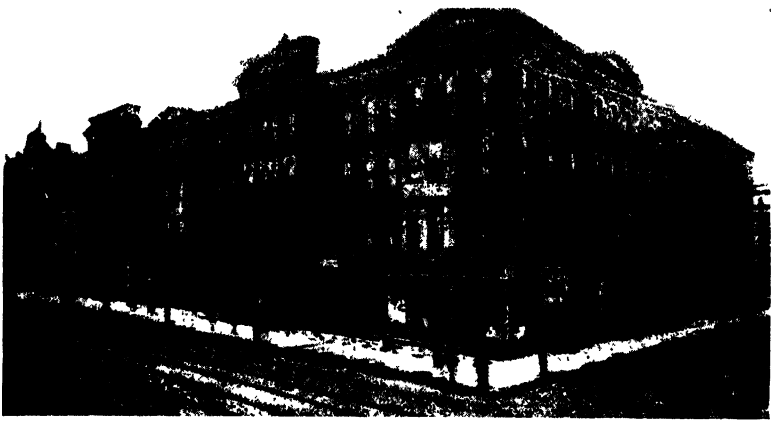
bility for the undertaking and passed the communication to a classmate, Marshall D. Murray, of Orangeburg, South Carolina. In Murray the proposition aroused an instinct for such endeavor, and he communicated to Howard his willingness to act. Murray first invited Robert E. Wannamaker, another Orangeburg boy, a junior in the College, who agreed to co-operate. They invited James H. Scarborough, a freshman, who accepted. On January 9, 1886, these three signed the pledge then required, after which Howard sent them the secret work. Coan and Anderson were persuaded to join in the movement at that time, and Benjamin B. James and Louis D. Hopson were pledged. The seven men constituted themselves as the charter members of Delta Chapter at its first meeting on January 28, 1886. At Howard's suggestion the organization ran *sub rosa* in the beginning.

During the previous month, when Howard was seeking a prospect to establish a Chapter at South Carolina College, a petition from a local at South Carolina Military Academy, at Charleston, was submitted to Regent Arthur, who lived at Columbia. Considerable correspondence followed with other members of the Grand Chapter, as the body of Grand Officers was then designated. Regent Arthur approved this petition, but it failed to receive support from all other Grand Officers because of the belief that the Citadel, as South Carolina Military Academy was widely known, was a preparatory branch of South Carolina College. The facts were that the College and the Citadel were independent branches of what was chartered as the University of South Carolina. The Citadel was organized in 1842, ceased activity at the close of the Civil War, and was reopened in 1882. It was patterned after West Point Military Academy, and therefore adopted the name of Academy, which designation encouraged the erroneous conclusion that the Citadel was a preparatory school. It was classified as a college by the United States Bureau of Education. Throughout the State it was regarded as of equal rank with South Carolina College, and was given more liberal legislative support.

Fraternities entered the Citadel soon after its reopening, Alpha Tau Omega, Kappa Alpha (S) and Sigma Alpha Epsilon establishing chapters there in 1883. The pre-war popularity of the institution was soon restored, and the attendance grew rapidly. Sigma Nu was represented in Charleston by some of the leading alumni of old Alpha Chapter, who gave enthusiastic support to the Citadel petitioners. J. Lamb Johnston, Alpha '71, was very urgent in communicating these endorsements to the four Grand Officers of Sigma Nu. Jacob T. Barron, Alpha '72, who had presided at the First Convention, lived at Columbia, and was one of the most prominent attorneys in the State. He espoused the Citadel petition with characteristic force, writing insistent letters to Howard and to Langton, both of whom he knew personally. James W. Ouzts, who conducted the correspondence for the petitioners, pursued an aggressive campaign in behalf of their request. He emphasized the several honors held by the individuals, including first honor man in the senior class, and first captain of the Cadet Corps. This was the first unsolicited petition the Fraternity had received, and it was rejected on the misapprehension that the Citadel lacked college rank. Barron was incensed over this decision. He wrote to Howard:

"I am astonished to hear that a Charter has been refused S. C. M. A., at Charleston. I regard it a serious error—I am tempted to say, a stupid blunder."

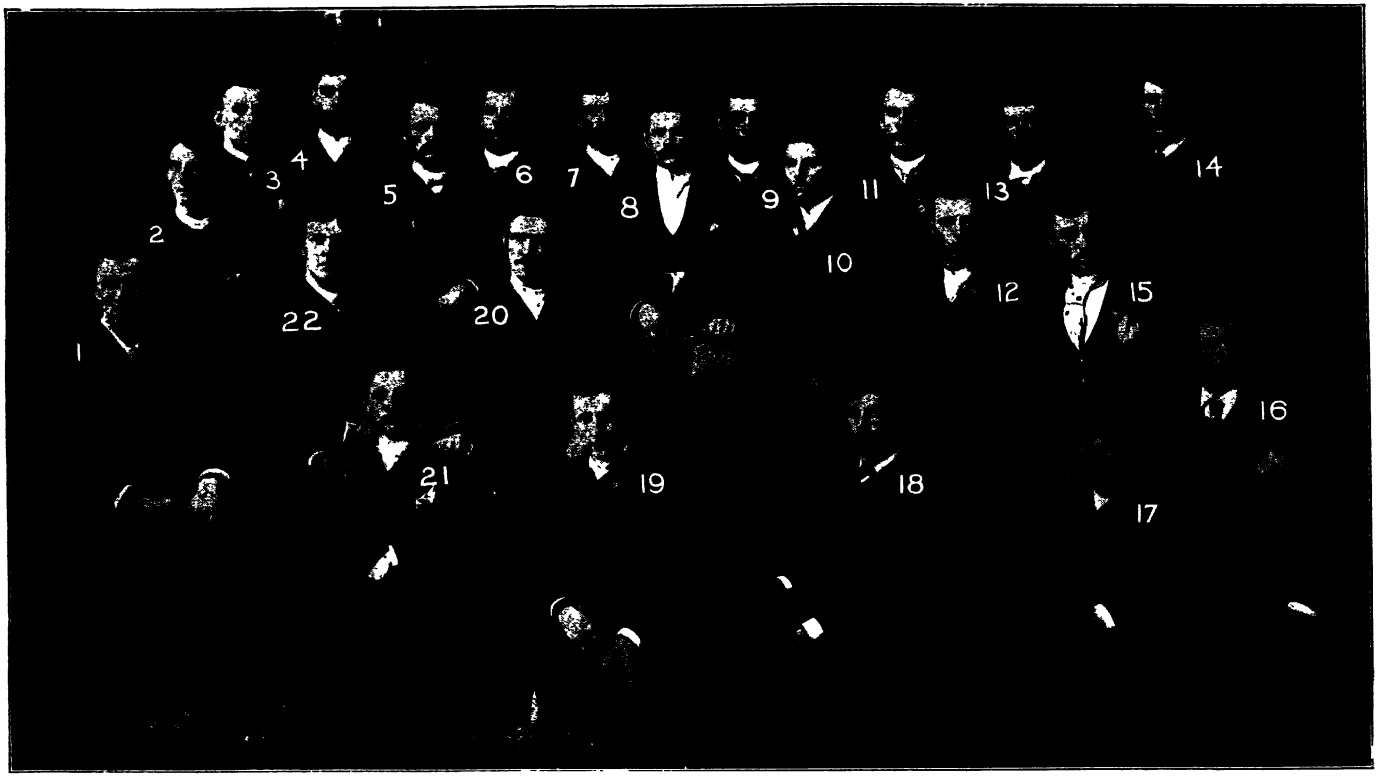
Having so decided, Barron proceeded to find a way to remedy the situation. Delta Chapter, the new South Carolina College grant, heartily favored the Citadel petition. This infant progeny had fallen under the guidance of Barron and Regent Arthur. The Chapter used Barron's law offices as its meeting place. In seeking a way to circumvent the denial of a charter for the Citadel, Barron discovered that the Delta Chapter charter had designated the University of South Carolina as its location. Legally, the University of South Carolina comprised South Carolina College and South Carolina Military Academy, and by virtue of the designation on the charter, Barron claimed that the Citadel came under the Delta charter grant. Accordingly, with the sanction of Regent



PHOENIX HOTEL, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY
As it appeared in 1886 when the Second Convention of Sigma Nu was held there.

Arthur, members of Delta Chapter went to Charleston and initiated the nine men whose petition had been rejected, notifying the Grand Officers that these men were accredited members of Delta Chapter. The initiation ceremonies were held at the home of J. Lamb Johnston, of Alpha. When the other three Grand Officers learned of this action, a decree was issued forbidding further initiations at either branch of Delta Chapter, and directing that certified lists of initiates at both the College and the Citadel be sent to the General Secretary. This was done, and further action was left for the consideration of the Lexington Convention.

The Second Convention of Sigma Nu convened in the parlors of the Phoenix Hotel at Lexington, Kentucky, August 4, 1886. Twenty-three delegates and visitors were in attendance, representing nine Chapters. The delegates were Morris Loveman and Alexander C. Davidson, Theta; William M. Robertson, Lambda; Miller Ward, Clarence E. Woods and Reuben F. Offutt, Zeta; Grant W. Harrington, Nu; Joel G. Jeffcoat, Xi; H. S. McCutcheon, Omicron; Charles



THE SECOND GRAND CHAPTER, LEXINGTON, KY., AUGUST 4, 1886

1, R. M. McCollum, Zeta; 2, S. C. Boylston, Delta; 3, Charles H. Breck, Zeta; 4, Reuben F. Offutt, Zeta; 5, J. G. Jeffcoat, Xi; 6, Thomas F. Brooker, Zeta; 7, Robert L. Northcutt, Lambda; 8, Clarence W. Murphey, Lambda; 9, William M. Robertson, Lambda; 10, J. Miller Ward, Zeta; 11, Joseph F. Paxton, Rho; 12, J. Frank Clay, Lambda; 13, Victor K. Brooks, Zeta; 14, Samuel C. Brooks, Zeta; 15, Clarence E. Woods, Zeta; 16, Charles McKee, Zeta; 17, Samuel E. Black, Zeta; 18, Grant W. Harrington, Nu; 19, Charles D. Marshall, Pi; 20, Rawson Bennett, Nu; 21, Morris Loveman, Theta; 22, A. C. Davidson, Jr., Theta.

D. Marshall, Pi; Samuel C. Boylston and James W. Ouzts, Delta; and Joseph F. Paxton, Rho. General Secretary Rawson Bennett was the only Grand Officer present, and presided at the opening of the convention. He was nominated as permanent chairman, but declined to serve, declaring that his duties as secretary of the convention would demand his entire attention. Clarence Wainwright Murphey, alumnus of Lambda Chapter, was then selected to preside. George Forman, of Zeta, Chief of the Second Division, arrived in the midst of the second session, and as ranking official next to Bennett assumed the duties of permanent chairman. Forman was the only "veteran" present, having represented Zeta at the First Convention.

Bennett had at that time been General Secretary for six months, and in this period he had given much study to the needs of the Fraternity. Even before assuming this office, he had contemplated the action of the convention, his *De Fraternitate* survey in *The Delta* having presented the following suggestions for consideration:

"Annual conventions; increased power in the Grand Chapter; compulsory support of the journal; the removal of all ritualistic matter from the Constitution, and the publication of the same. I also believe that definite headquarters should be fixed in some large city, say Louisville or Cincinnati. A fraternity gains by having some fixed habitation for its central authorities."

In this last suggestion, Bennett's mind was working thirty years in advance of the Fraternity's development. His report as General Secretary had other such far-sighted recommendations, but it was more concerned over the immediate needs of the organization. The most urgent demand was set forth in the summary of his report:

"In conclusion, brethren, I wish to say that in my opinion the greatest fault of the Fraternity is lack of *system*. Chapters and Grand Chapters have conducted their affairs in entirely too loose a manner. We have had too much independence, and not enough interdependence. Due forms have not been observed; full records have not been kept."

Bennett's recommendations prevailed at the Second Convention, where his powerful intellect dominated the deliberations. He was Chairman of the Committee on Constitution and Ritual. Jeffcoat, of Xi, and Ward, of Zeta, served with him in working out the details of changes which Bennett had suggested. The Ritual was not embraced in their efforts, the revision of the Constitution taking all the time available. The ruling body and general assembly of Sigma Nu, previously called the Convention, was designated as the Grand Chapter, and was scheduled to meet annually. The four Grand Officers, formerly composing what was known as the Grand Chapter, were constituted as the High Council. Division Chiefs were excluded from this body, and became a general Board of Extension, retaining votes in the Grand Chapter. The office of General Secretary was changed in name to Grand Recorder.

Bennett's report contained a complete review and thorough analysis of the South Carolina difficulties. The irregularities of procedure there had been made known to the Chapters, and the delegates were prepared for drastic action. Bennett pointed out that the offenders were the members of Delta Chapter

attending South Carolina College at Columbia, and not the ones they had initiated at the Citadel as a branch of Delta Chapter. He admitted that there might be an interpretation of the Constitution that would favor Delta Chapter, but he did not defend their acts. He did make rather a strong case for the Citadel members, whom he declared had been illegally initiated, yet who were legally in possession of the Order. He insisted that their relations to the Fraternity at large were indefeasible. "They *are* Brothers of Sigma Nu, and *must* be recognized as such," Bennett contended.

Two of these Citadel initiates, James W. Ouzts and Samuel C. Boylston, had been seated in the convention as delegates of Delta Chapter, yet as Bennett pointed out they could not legally be members of Delta Chapter. They could remain members at large, or might be erected into a Chapter at the pleasure of the Convention, he stated. This proved to be the way out of the difficulty. Harrington offered a resolution authorizing a separate charter for the Citadel initiates to organize Tau Chapter. This was adopted with only the dissent of a proxy vote which had been ordered cast against such a proposition, and which could not be altered. Some of the delegates had come with similar determination, but Bennett's report and the fine impression made by Ouzts and Boylston won them the unanimous approval of all the delegates present.



GEORGE M. NAPIER, KAPPA
Vice Regent, 1886-87.

The most important change authorized in the revision of the Constitution provided for the publication of *The Delta* to be placed in charge of a Collegiate Chapter. This was a plan that had been adopted by other fraternities. It lifted from the Founder of *The Delta* the financial burden he could no longer carry. In view of this new provision in the Constitution, a motion was offered and carried selecting Nu Chapter at the University of Kansas to publish *The Delta* the next year. Provision was also made for the publication of a catalogue. The Grand Recorder was designated as chairman of the catalogue committee with authority to choose assistants in each Chapter. The Lexington convention was in many respects constructive. With due credit to the splendid array of delegates, the result was a forecast of the remarkable service rendered over a period of many years by Perlee Rawson Bennett.

The convention elected Daniel W. Langton, Theta, Regent; George M. Napier, Kappa, Vice Regent; Rawson Bennett, Nu, Grand Recorder; and M. George Y. Forman, Zeta, Grand Treasurer. The number of Divisions was in-

creased from three to five to embrace the new territory entered, and the following were elected Division Chiefs: I, Clarence W. Murphey, Lambda; II, Joel G. Jeffcoat, Xi; III, Clarence E. Woods, Zeta; IV, Grant W. Harrington, Nu; V, Charles W. Lohse, Pi. Birmingham, Alabama, was selected as the place for holding the third convention, which was to be known as the Grand Chapter. A banquet at the Phoenix Hotel on the evening of the second day was the concluding event of the Lexington convention. The personnel of this second convention was representative of the Fraternity's enlarged field of activity. Contrasted with the group of eight delegates, who represented Chapters in only four Southern states at the First Convention, the Lexington gathering gave evidence of the progress that had been made in the two years. Marshall from Lehigh University, Harrington from the University of Kansas, and Paxton from the University of Missouri, were brilliant testimonials of the success of northern and western extension. Joel G. Jeffcoat, Xi delegate, saved Georgia with its three Chapters from being without representation. He personally bore the expense of this trip, which he could not well afford to do. Jeffcoat's devotion to Sigma Nu was the kind that yielded to no obstacle that human effort and sacrifice could overcome. Loveman and Davidson brought to the convention in their own gifted selves the proof of excellence of the Alabama Chapter, of which Langton and Dean had boasted at the First Convention. William Murray Robertson loyally carried Lambda's banner with the same devoted faithfulness that he had displayed in keeping the Washington and Lee Chapter alive during a period of the University's temporary decline. The Kentucky Chapters were eminently represented, Omicron by the beloved Harvey McCutcheon, and Zeta by its three delegates, Ward, Offutt and Clarence Woods, and by several visitors. Walter Northcutt, Frank Clay and Clarence Murphey constituted the alumni delegation, testifying to the loyalty of the Lambda of Robinson's day, and to the spirit of the early members of the Washington and Lee Chapter. Murphey was the only out-of-state member attending as a visitor. He journeyed from North Carolina to participate in the fellowship of the convention. A motion was made to appropriate Murphey's cane and "plug" hat for the Fraternity archives. A compromise was effected by having these picturesque accouterments appear in the convention picture.



M. GEORGE Y. FORMAN, ZETA
Grand Treasurer, 1886-87.

The attendance at Lexington was considered very gratifying. This success was due principally to the work of Clarence E. Woods, then a collegiate mem-

ber of Zeta Chapter at Central University, Richmond, Kentucky. Woods had been initiated less than a year before the date of the convention. At once he gave indication of that innate enthusiasm and inherent love for the Fraternity destined to be recognized as incomparable. In correspondence with Woods, Bennett had observed evidence of these attributes and co-ordinating talents. He assigned to this youthful enthusiast the responsibility for convention publicity and for preliminary arrangements. This was the first service of Clarence E. Woods to the general Fraternity.

The Lexington convention was noteworthy not alone for its vital legislation. In potential significance it was a momentous event. The entry of Bennett, Harrington and Woods into the national council of the Fraternity was an occasion without compare in the history of Sigma Nu.

CHAPTER XV

The Expanding Domain

THE year following the Second Convention was a period of decreased activity in extension compared with the era of rapid development that had followed the First Convention. Tau Chapter at the Citadel began its independent existence in the fall of 1886 with the seven men who had been initiated as members of Delta Chapter the previous year. These charter members of Tau Chapter were James W. Ouzts, Robert M. Walker, Samuel C. Boylston, Elliot C. McCants, James T. Coleman, Augustus G. Miller and Lewis W. Haskell. Nine initiates were added during the year 1885-86, and Tau Chapter became recognized at once as one of the very finest bodies of collegians that ever had entered Sigma Nu. They excelled in scholastic achievement and in military rank. Their fraternity spirit was ideal. Ouzts and Bolyston, who had



THE CITADEL
Campus of South Carolina Military Academy where Tau Chapter was established in 1886.

attended the convention at Lexington, injected into the Chapter the enthusiasm they had imbibed there. The fact that they had been forced to fight for their charter strengthened the bonds among the members of Tau Chapter, and made them more appreciative of their membership in Sigma Nu.

The array of honor men listed in that first-year roster of Tau Chapter was

headed by Walker, a senior, who was a captain in the Cadet Corps and who won first honors in scholarship. McCants was anniversarian of the literary society that year. Coleman brought honors to the Citadel by winning the principal medal in a national contest of military colleges at New Orleans. Miller was salutatorian of the literary society, senior captain, and third honor man of the class of 1888. Haskell was senior captain the next year, was commencement orator, and won first honors in scholarship. William H. Rose and Benjamin L. Clark, first-year initiates, became captains in their senior year, Clark leading his graduating class in scholarship. There were one hundred and seventeen students at the Citadel in the year 1886-87, and it was truly a remarkable record that Tau Chapter made in securing such a proportion of honor men in its first year.



SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE LIBRARY
Campus view of South Carolina College, now University of South Carolina. From a picture taken by John M. McBryde, Delta, during the early years of that Chapter's existence.

Delta Chapter at South Carolina College, foster parent of Tau, was having contrary experiences while its progeny was prospering. Only three members, Scarborough, Hopson and Murray, returned in the fall of 1886. Wannamaker came back to help in the pledging, the difficulties of contesting against six strongly entrenched rivals threatening the existence of Delta Chapter at the opening of its second year. Three new members were secured, making a chapter roll of six, which was reduced to five when one of the number had to withdraw from College. The outlook of the Chapter would have been little im-

proved in its second year had it not been for the initiation of Walter Aiken Conant, of Boston, Massachusetts. Walter Conant proved to be one of the most loyal and enthusiastic members the Fraternity ever produced. His persistence, his unyielding faith, his unceasing labor demonstrated what determined will and hard work can accomplish in the face of seemingly insuperable obstacles.

South Carolina College, prior to its becoming the University of South Carolina in 1888, experienced a decline in the number of students enrolled. The rivalry for fraternity material became intense. Under the most severe application of the rule of the survival of the fittest, Sigma Nu, the youngest fraternity there, was singled out for elimination. When it became known that Sigma Nu was seeking to pledge certain students, these men were offered membership in the older fraternities. Even a promise to join was not assurance that the desired pledge was secure from the scheming of the allied opposition. Immediate initiation was sometimes resorted to in order to make certain a victory. Delta Chapter did not lower its standard, and continued to take defeats rather than accept inferior material. Three bids were lost in 1887-88, seven were lost in 1888-89, and four in 1889-90. By this time the Chapter had observed that the most-sought freshmen did not always prove to be the leading upperclass students. Without lowering their ambitions, they broadened their views, and pledged students with less freshman luster and more future promise, training and developing them to become leaders in the College.



JOHN M. McBRYDE, II, DELTA
Notable initiate of the University of South Carolina Chapter, steadfast in devotion to Sigma Nu.

In this way the membership was built up slowly, with only three additions each year until 1889-90, when seven men were initiated. But one man was lost in 1890-91, and for the first time a pledge was won who had been asked to join the strongest rival. The next year Sigma Nu won every man invited, securing six initiates of outstanding merit. Delta Chapter's scholastic prestige grew steadily, the records of Walter A. Conant, his brother, Franklin Story Conant, and Thomas Davis Porcher serving as the foundation upon which this success was established. The fine record of Delta Chapter was recognized by the president of the University, a member of one of the older fraternities there, who agreed that his two sons should join Sigma Nu. Thus were added to the roll the names of two distinguished scholars, John M. McBryde and Charles N. McBryde.

The record of Delta Chapter discloses one of the most heroic struggles in the history of Sigma Nu. A more impressive demonstration of the efficacy of faith supported by hard work is not recorded in any chapter history. The victory was not to be long enjoyed, however, for in 1890 political influences disrupted the institution, a number of its departments having been moved to another college. The attendance rapidly decreased, and in the year 1894-95 there were but sixty-six students in the University of South Carolina. This marked the low ebb of the decline, and with the elimination of hostile political influence a revival followed. The next year one hundred and fifty students were enrolled. Delta Chapter survived this critical period, and responded to improved conditions with a membership of ten during the year 1895-96. Another calamity, fatal in its effect, followed in 1897, when the legislature passed antifraternity laws which abolished all Greek-letter societies from State institutions.



WALTER A. CONANT, DELTA
Zealous leader of the University of South Carolina Chapter, seated in the library of his Alma Mater.

Thus ended the career of Delta Chapter—but its soul went marching on! For many years the spirit of Walter A. Conant was manifest in loyal service in Sigma Nu. His contributions to *The Delta* were edifying and inspiring. His personal influence on Chapters with which he came in contact encouraged the kind of effort toward internal improvement that had won the great victory for Delta Chapter. The current of Walter Conant's Sigma Nu inspiration flowed directly from the fountain-head of the Fraternity's ideals. His intimacy with Barron, Arthur and other early Alpha members living in South Carolina gave him an understanding of the original purpose and precepts of Sigma Nu that few members possessed. Democracy was considered by Walter Conant the underlying virtue of the Fraternity, and service to fellow-members its principal aim. In words and deeds he proclaimed and exemplified these fraternity attributes through a long life of devoted loyalty to Sigma Nu.

The South Carolina legislative ban on fraternities also included the Citadel in its decree, but Tau Chapter had earlier succumbed to similar action invoked by the officials of that institution. Fraternities at the Citadel had existed contrary to a rule which had not been enforced by the faculty for a number of years, the Greek-letter societies operating *sub rosa,* yet not without general knowledge of their activity. In 1891 the officials took cognizance of their existence, and applied the injunction against them with the result that one of the finest Chapters in Sigma Nu gave up its charter.

Sigma Chapter came into existence at Vanderbilt University during the col-

lege year 1885-86. Sigma Nu was the eighth Greek-letter society to enter this institution. Phi Delta Theta established the first Chapter there in 1876, followed in order by Kappa Sigma, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Kappa Alpha (S), Chi Phi and Beta Theta Pi. Delta Tau Delta entered the same year that Sigma Chapter was established. Antifraternity laws had existed prior to 1884, but not to the successful exclusion of the organizations which increased in number consistent with the growth of the institution.

Vanderbilt University originally was incorporated in 1872 as Central University at Nashville, Tennessee. Its foundation was due to the munificence of Cornelius Vanderbilt, whose initial donation of half a million dollars was given to Central University in 1873. The founder's gift was subsequently increased to one million dollars. In 1874 the academic, biblical, law and medical departments were organized. With the functioning of these departments and the graduation of its first medical and law classes in 1875, Vanderbilt Univer-



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY CAMPUS
As it appeared during the early years of Sigma Chapter's history.

sity formally entered upon its career which has been renowned especially for the excellency of its professional schools.

In the fall of 1885 James Garland Cooper, of Omicron Chapter, Bethel College, entered Vanderbilt University. En route to Nashville he met a member of an older fraternity who advised him to leave off his Sigma Nu badge with the thought that he might then be invited to join another fraternity. This suggestion, which was not inconsistent with general conduct of certain organizations at that time, was contrary to the ideals that Cooper had subscribed to when he took the vows as a charter member of Sigma Nu's second Kentucky Chapter. Instead of deserting, he determined to introduce Sigma Nu at Vanderbilt. Cooper located other members who were attending the University, and they agreed to join with him in the venture. A charter was granted by the Grand Officers early in the year 1886, and Sigma Chapter was organized with

four affiliates and three initiates as charter members. The affiliates were James Garland Cooper, Omicron; Elijah M. Harris and Robert L. Somerville, Theta; and William M. Erwin, Lambda. The initiates were Ossian Crockett, John W. Collins and Benjamin E. Mathews. Most of these charter members were in the professional departments, and gave little time to chapter activities. Meetings were held in the rooms of the members or on the campus in very informal manner. Later in the year a hall was rented for meetings one night a week.

In the fall of 1886, all the charter members returned to the University except Collins. Two initiates were added with an affiliate from Kappa Chapter. At the beginning of the next semester another initiate was taken in, and an affiliate from Omicron Chapter was enrolled. Students attending professional departments, located in different sections of Nashville, continued to constitute almost the entire membership, with more than half the number affiliates. These circumstances operated against the building up of a healthy and militant chapter spirit. As a result, Sigma Nu became dormant during the year 1887.



RUFUS E. FORT,
BETA OMICRON-SIGMA
One of the leaders in the revival of the Vanderbilt Chapter during the college year 1892-93.

In the fall of 1891 Charles W. Lee, of Theta, and Albert S. Robertson, of Phi Chapter, which had been established at Louisiana State University, entered Vanderbilt and attempted to revive Sigma Chapter. Three members were initiated in November. All were in the professional schools, and the revival was merely nominal so far as a chapter organization was concerned. The effort was not altogether in vain, however, for Lee and Robertson returned in the fall of 1892 and found three members from other Chapters who joined them in the effort that resulted in the real beginning of Sigma's existence as a Chapter. While Lee and Robertson deserve credit for the ground work begun the previous year, the leaders in the successful endeavors of the year 1892-93 were Manning J. Yeomans, of Mu, University of Georgia, and Rufus E. Fort, a charter member of Beta Omicron Chapter, that had been established at the University of the South. Norman M. Windsor, charter member of Beta Gamma Chapter, then existing at Missouri Valley College, was the fifth member of this group of energetic affiliates who put real spirit and vigor into Sigma Chapter. They profited by the experiences of the past, and determined to fortify against similar misfortunes by including academic students in the chapter roll.

The first meeting of this rejuvenating quintet was held in Rufus Fort's room on South Summer Street. Three of the prospects they voted into the Order at that meeting accepted invitations to join. But the desire to obtain representatives in the academic department was not then realized. Before the year was over, however, their ambitions had been achieved, fulfilling the prophecy of Lee in the first chapter letter of that year.

"The brilliant star of Sigma Nu has once more illumined the Fraternity circles of the famous old Vanderbilt University, and its radiance and beauty will not be excelled by other fraternities when another scholastic year shall have rolled away."

The result of that bold promise is recorded in Yeomans' chapter letter published in *The Delta*, March, 1893.

"The prediction made by Brother C. W. Lee in his first letter from Sigma seems to have been verified. Starting out in September with six men, only one of whom was in the literary department, we now have seventeen, eight of whom are in that department. In September it seemed that dear old Sigma was doomed to a hopeless struggle at Vanderbilt; that its flickering light, nursed though it was by a faithful few and guarded with a jealous devotion, was destined soon to cast its fitful gleam on the fraternity life of the South's noblest institution. But things have changed, and the members can confidently look forward to the time, not far distant, when Sigma will have a name and a record the envy of the most ambitious Chapter. That name and that record will, in great part, be made by men who have recently been taught to worship at her shrine, and who are as staunch Sigma Nus as ever wore the badge."



MANNING J. YOEMANS, MU-SIGMA
Member of the University of Georgia Chapter active in the 1892-93 revival of the Vanderbilt Chapter.

This boast was not unwarranted, as is evidenced by the records of members of Sigma Chapter initiated that year, and during a period that a remarkable scholastic reputation was achieved. John H. Dinning, forerunner of this line of intellectuals, won the founder's medal in the academic department with the highest average for the full course ever attained up to that time, winning also Phi Beta Kappa membership. Another founder's medal, given for the highest four-year average in the engineering department, was won by James O. Mahoney, also an initiate of Sigma's revival year, 1892-93. It was said of Mahoney at that time that he was the finest mathematician ever graduated at the University.

Both Dinning and Mahoney took master's degrees at Vanderbilt. William J. Howard, a later initiate, won the founder's medal in the academic department, exceeding Dinning's high mark. He was closely pursued in this average by Robert B. Holt, an initiate of the same year. But Holt transferred to the University of Wisconsin in his junior year, where he was graduated at the head of his class, and where he founded a Chapter of Sigma Nu, which was strongly influenced by the character of his fine scholastic record. Herbert Gannaway was the next member to receive the founder's medal, his averages going above the high marks made by Dinning and Howard. Gannaway also won the Owen medal, the highest oratorical honor, which was earned by members of Sigma Chapter three times in five years. Adrian D. Eatherly, initiated the year after the revival of Sigma, won the entrance prize in mathematics, and made a scholastic record consistent with this beginning.

Before Phi Beta Kappa was installed at Vanderbilt, there was a local scholarship fraternity organized to petition this national honor society. A year after this merger was completed, a list of those connected with Vanderbilt as students or instructors who had won Phi Beta Kappa honors revealed the remarkable fact that there were more members of Sigma Nu in Phi Beta Kappa at Vanderbilt at that time than of the nine other fraternities combined. Sigma Chapter acquired such an outstanding reputation in scholarship that students striving for high scholastic honors considered an invitation to join Sigma Nu as a recognition of their standing.

Probably the most signal tribute to the Chapter's record in this regard came when three sons of the professor of the English department were won as members of Sigma Nu. The three brothers, who were all members of Sigma Chapter at one time, were Grinnell Jones, Richard Chapin Jones and Eliot Jones, each of whom took postgraduate degrees at either Harvard or Yale. Grinnell remained at Harvard as an assistant professor; Richard became full professor at the University of Virginia; and Eliot became a full professor at the University of Texas. Grinnell Jones won the founder's medal at Vanderbilt. While these Jones brothers were adding fame to Sigma's scholastic record, Jesse M. Corum won both the founder's medal and the Owen medal. Charles C. Grimm won a research medal and earned letters in football, baseball and basketball. Martin Smith Roberts won the founder's medal in the engineering department, the seventh time this premier scholarship honor had been won by Sigma Nu. Meetings at that time were held at the Jones residence, but in the fall of 1902 a house was rented for Chapter use.

During its early history members of Sigma Chapter achieved in other activities, but with much less renown than in scholarship. Mahoney, one of the revival-year initiates, made the football squad along with his fine scholastic record. Henry A. Davis, initiated the same year, became center in the Varsity. Gannaway was made Editor-in-Chief of *Comet*, the annual later named the *Commodore*. William W. Hughes was business manager of both *Comet* and *Observer*, the latter a quarterly published by the debating societies. Hughes also won debating society honors, in which activity Lee J. Loventhal, an earlier initiate, had won distinction. Socially, these early members found little time

for indulging, and fraternity life before a house was rented was limited principally to fellowship on chance meeting. As a result, the Chapter paid the penalty of one-sided development, and when it attempted to function in other directions its troubles began.

The roll of Sigma Chapter during the second decade after its 1892 revival contains the names of many loyal members of the Fraternity. But the history of the Chapter during that period consists of a series of relapses due principally to financial difficulties. Extravagance in social activity and carelessness in financial matters several times brought Sigma Chapter to a crisis. Twice the general Fraternity was faced with the choice of cancelling the Chapter's accumulated obligations to the organization or allowing it to die out because old debts could not be paid by members not responsible for these deficiencies. On both occasions the Fraternity cleaned its slate of Sigma's obligations. A large number of affiliates and short-time students greatly interfered with the building up of a permanent Chapter organization, and operated against the establishment of a stable financial policy. During these years of reverses, Sigma Chapter's best friend and most faithful alumnus was Lee J. Loventhal, a resident of Nashville. During the early period when Sigma Nu at Vanderbilt was virtually an honorary scholarship fraternity, Loventhal more than any other member evidenced a desire for closer Chapter fellowship. The fraternal instinct responsible for this desire found frequent opportunity for expression in service, and the minutes of Sigma for several years recorded the attendance at meetings of Lee Loventhal, the patient, loyal, generous benefactor of his Chapter.

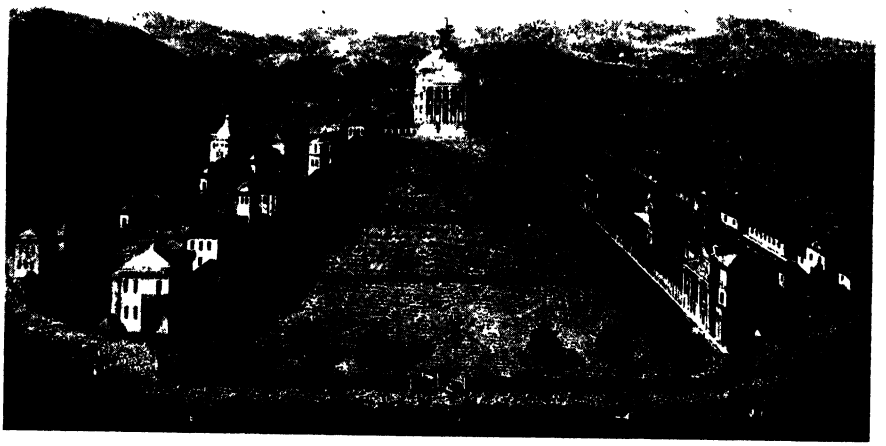


LEE J. LOVENTHAL, SIGMA
One of the most active among the early members of the Vanderbilt Chapter, long faithful in support of Sigma.

Beta Chapter at the University of Virginia experienced one of its spasmodic revivals in 1886, the year that Sigma Chapter was established. Its unstable existence had resulted from conditions similar to those which affected the early fortunes of the Vanderbilt Chapter. Affiliates matriculated in the professional schools, whose work was arduous and whose stay was brief, brought about recurrent revivals of the University of Virginia Chapter, but almost as often left it bereft of leadership and devoid of an individualistic chapter spirit. Prior to 1886 there had been no real organization of Beta Chapter. In the fall of that year William Murray Robertson, of Lambda, entered the medical department at the University. Seventeen fraternities were then functioning there, sup-

ported by about three hundred students, many of whom were taking post-graduate work, a number of whom had been members of fraternities elsewhere.

Robertson had won his spurs at Lambda when he maintained the Washington and Lee Chapter under much worse conditions than confronted him at the University of Virginia. He had attended the Lexington Convention where impetus had been given his fraternity enthusiasm, and he gave himself readily to the work of reviving Beta Chapter. William F. Chalmers and William T. Pierce, of Alpha, Herman Morris and Brent Altsheler, of Omicron, were attending the University, and assisted Robertson in his work. Beta's charter had been with-



UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
As it appeared when Sigma Nu was founded there in 1870. From a print published in 1856 by C. Bohn. The rotunda in the center, destroyed by fire in 1892, has been rebuilt according to original plans of Thomas Jefferson.

drawn after the collapse of the 1884 revival, and without awaiting a return of this formal instrument the new effort was begun. Robertson had a cot placed in his room, and invited Clarence Murphey, charter member of Lambda, to visit him and assist in the pledging of new members. Murphey made the trip to Charlottesville on that particular mission, remaining three weeks. His conspicuous personality contributed to the success of winning four pledges whose names were added to the renewed Beta Chapter roll. The selections were hastily agreed upon, and it was soon evident that a mistake had been made. Three of these initiates were dropped from membership, leaving Robert Lee Black, of Keswick, Virginia, the net result of this undertaking—and well worth the effort.

In the fall of 1887 Robertson, Morris and Altsheler resumed their studies at the University of Virginia. Four other affiliates who entered that year were Joel T. Howard, founder of Nu Chapter; Thomas W. Coleman, of Theta;

Thomas H. Frazier, of Omicron; and Samuel V. Fulkerson, of Alpha. Robert Black, initiated the previous year, also returned. A charter had been received, and a more deliberate effort was made to reorganize the Chapter. A room for meetings was secured, and Fulkerson was chosen Commander of the Chapter. On the day before lectures began, Robertson unexpectedly met Isadore Dyer, a chum of boarding school days, who was looking for a room. Robertson invited Dyer to become his room-mate, which at once he agreed to do. Dyer had attended Yale University the previous year, and had entered the University of Virginia for medical work. He was a man of extraordinary native ability and of diversified talents, endowed with a fine esthetic sense and poetic instinct. A graduate of Yale, he had already traveled extensively in Europe and was, even then, a man of scholarly attainments and broad culture. Naturally, he was at once besieged with invitations to join prominent fraternities at the University.



WILLIAM MURRAY ROBERTSON.
LAMBDA-BETA
Heroic figure in early history of the Chapters at Washington and Lee University and University of Virginia.



ISADORE DYER, BETA
Initiate of the University of Virginia Chapter, whose extensive service for the Fraternity culminated in his election to the regency.

The desire to have Dyer join Sigma Nu was the incentive for quick action in reorganizing Beta Chapter in the fall of 1887. Disregarding the arguments of the older fraternities, Dyer accepted the invitation to become a member of Sigma Nu. This touching demonstration of faithfulness to an old friend typified the loyalty and fraternal spirit of Isadore Dyer, attributes which prompted him in his lifelong interest and extensive service in the work of his Fraternity. His instincts for friendships was responsible for the pledging of Philip Brother-

son, the only other initiate of that college year. Brotherson, a friend of Dyer, living at his home city, then Galveston, Texas, was influenced by this connection to join Sigma Nu. Brotherson was a quiet, dignified, refined gentleman of the same fiber as Dyer. The seven affiliates of Beta Chapter that year were men of unusual character, and with Black, Dyer and Brotherson the Beta initiates, Sigma Nu was represented by ten members of the very highest order.

The prospect for a permanent establishment of Beta Chapter received a blow when Joel Howard and Brent Altsheler had to withdraw. Dyer also left before the end of the year to prepare for a summer sojourn abroad. Frazier, Brotherson, Morris and Fulkerson received their law degrees at commencement. Coleman planned to complete his law work at Alabama the next year. Black did not return to the University, and in the fall of 1888 Robertson was the only one of the ten members of the previous year who came back. No members from other Chapters entered the University of Virginia that year, a very unusual circumstance. Discouraged by the outcome of two years' effort, Robertson gave up the undertaking. Immediately after securing his medical degree, Robertson sailed for Europe to continue his studies, carrying with him the charter of Beta Chapter, which was lost during his travel abroad.

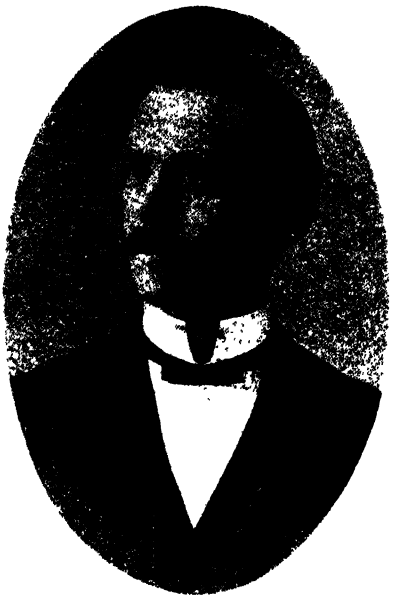


SIDNEY E. BRADSHAW,
OMICRON-BETA
Initiate of the Bethel College Chapter, a mainstay in the second revival of the University of Virginia Chapter.

Whitmel P. Martin, charter member of Phi Chapter that had been established at Louisiana State University, entered the University of Virginia in 1891. He was an enthusiastic Sigma Nu, having been an ardent worker in the establishment of Phi Chapter. He found Mendal L. Smith, of Tau Chapter, matriculated at the University. Smith was a very popular student, and was captain of the baseball team that year. Martin secured Smith's agreement to help him reestablish Beta Chapter. Their first initiate was Charles R. Boyde, who had attended school with Martin at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Malcolm G. Robinson, a friend of Boyde from his home town, Wytheville, Virginia, was taken in during December. Two other initiates were added to Beta's roll during that term. Martin was made Commander of the Chapter. The fact that four of the six members were Beta initiates promised a better fate for this revival, which prospect was realized during the next year.

During the college year 1892-93, Beta made a new mark in membership with thirteen men in the Chapter. Three of this number had been members the

previous year. Of this trio, Malcolm Robinson was the most faithful and energetic in promoting the welfare of the Chapter that year. The real leader of that successful period was Sidney E. Bradshaw, of Omicron Chapter. Bradshaw had been scholarship medalist four times at Bethel College, and his scholastic ability demonstrated at the University of Virginia reflected great honor upon Beta Chapter. Bradshaw attended the University of Virginia several years, and at different times was an editor of *College Topics, University of Virginia Magazine* and *Corks and Curls*. Of the seven initiates of the year 1892-93, Walter N. Trulock deserves particular mention for his part in helping promote within the Chapter that year a fraternal spirit and loyal interest in Sigma Nu such as he manifested all his life. Club rooms were fitted up at considerable expense, and a normal chapter life was experienced. All but one of the initiates were in the academic department, and this fact contributed to the success of that year. Beta Chapter had later relapses, but her charter never again became dormant.



WADE HAMPTON ELLIS, LAMBDA
Distinguished member of the Washington and Lee Chapter who became Regent of Sigma Nu.



RUDOLPH BUMGARDNER, LAMBDA
A life-long patron of the Washington and Lee Chapter, for many years active in the councils of the general fraternity.

During those years when Beta Chapter was being permanently re-established, Lambda at Washington and Lee was being restored to its position of prominence from which it had receded coincident with the passing of Alpha. Bixby Willis, sole initiate of the year 1886, was the only collegiate member of Lambda who returned in the fall of 1887. Dallas Flannagan, of Alpha, was matriculated in the law school at Washington and Lee, which department that year had double the number of students enrolled the previous year. There was increased

attendance in other departments of the University, and the fraternities, which had suffered from a dearth of material, participated in this renewal of prosperity.

Lambda Chapter was fortunate in having strong alumni support to take advantage of this situation. Edward R. Martin, who had been graduated from Washington and Lee the previous year, returned to assist in Lambda's rehabilitation. The ever-reliable Hugh McCrum, alumnus of Lambda residing in Lex-



JOHN CARMICHAEL, SR. ALPHA | JOHN CARMICHAEL, JR. LAMBDA | JOHN CARMICHAEL, III DELTA PI

THREE GENERATIONS OF SIGMA NUS

ington, rendered loyal assistance. Probably the most important factor in the success of the pledging campaign that fall was the co-operation of Eugene H. Crowdus, Alpha's indomitable Commander of the year 1882-83, who had returned to Lexington for a visit, and who remained to help resuscitate Lambda. Included in the group initiated into Lambda at that time was Wade Hampton Ellis, whose service for the Fraternity then inaugurated culminated twenty years later in his election to the office of Regent of Sigma Nu.

The impetus given Lambda in the fall of 1887 carried the Chapter to the greatest prosperity in its early history during the years 1890 and 1891. Among the initiates of those triumphant years was John Carmichael, Jr., son of John Carmichael, of Alpha's founding group, and the first son of a Sigma Nu to be initiated into the Fraternity, a relationship that extended into the third generation. Many other names added to Lambda's roll during that period became renowned in the Chapter's history, and in the Fraternity beyond the Chapter's sphere. Pre-eminent is the name of Rudolph Bumgardner, whose record of constant and devoted interest in Lambda has been exceeded in forty years of the Chapter's history only by that of the faithful Robinson, Lambda's founder.

Upsilon Chapter, established at the University of Texas in December, 1886, completed the work of extension and revival of that year, which included the founding of Rho, Delta, Sigma and Tau, with the beginning of Beta's revival.

The Republic of Texas in its constitution, adopted in 1836, provided for a general system of education. In accordance with this design, the Congress of 1839 passed an act setting aside forty acres of land north of the city of Austin as the site for the State University, and also allotted fifty leagues of land as a basis for a University fund. One million acres were added to this by the legislature in 1857. No definite steps were taken toward establishing the University of Texas until in 1881, when a Board of Regents was formed to take charge of the work. The cornerstone of the main building was laid in November, 1882, a structure



MAIN BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
View of the University of Texas campus as it appeared at the time of the founding of Upsilon Chapter.

modeled after the Capitol at Washington. The University was opened in 1883. Fraternities entered at once, Kappa Alpha (S), Phi Delta Theta and Phi Gamma Delta establishing Chapters that year. Kappa Sigma, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Chi followed the next year, and Beta Theta Pi entered in 1885.

In early September, 1886, Eugene L. Alford, of Lambda, one of the alumni of the Washington and Lee Chapter instrumental in the founding of Nu Chapter, wrote John Alexander Howard that he had a prospect ready to inaugurate Sigma Nu at the University of Texas, and asked for early action on a charter. Alford was not aware of the administration changes made at the Lexington convention the previous month, when Howard's term as Vice Regent ended, and *The Delta* was placed in the hands of the Kansas Chapter. There was considerable delay in Alford's request for a charter reaching the new High Council, and the advantage he wished to gain by an early start at the University of Texas that year was lost. Alford proceeded with the work as soon as authority was

received, and in December, 1886, the following charter members of Upsilon Chapter were initiated: William Thompson, William L. Hill, William C. Kimbrough, James A. Graham and Thomas J. Vaughan. Clarence D. Hocker was the first initiate of the Chapter, joining the month of its founding. John M. Sharp, Edwin B. Parker and Jasper Collins were initiated later that college year.

These first-year members of Upsilon Chapter were nearly all active in the literary societies. Kimbrough was president of the Rusk Society, an honor later held by Sharp. Collins became president and was intermediate orator of the Athenian Society. He won scholastic honor in his sophomore year, and made four distinctions in his senior year. Parker was orator of the Athenian Society in 1888, and was Editor-in-Chief of the *University Magazine* in his senior year. Thompson won first rank class standing in junior law, and distinction in senior law, completing the two years' work in one year.

All the first-year members but Thompson, Vaughan and Collins returned in the fall of 1887. Two initiates were added, making a total of nine members the second year. Six of these men expected to return in the fall of 1888, but only Edwin B. Parker and Perry W. Brown came back. A very serious anti-fraternity movement among the students had been launched, and Kappa Alpha, the oldest fraternity in the University, had suspended operations. This opposition made Upsilon's situation very precarious. Parker and Brown were both seniors, and the need for members to maintain the Chapter after their graduation was critical. Grant Harrington, then Grand Recorder of the Fraternity, was advised of the situation, and sent an official circular letter to all alumni living in the State of Texas, urging immediate assistance for Upsilon. Isadore Dyer, of Beta Chapter, then resident in Galveston, Texas, took the initiative by calling a meeting of Sigma Nus living in the State to assemble at Austin on November 17, 1888. Alpha and Lambda Chapters had many loyal alumni in Texas, and Dyer's call aroused anew their militant spirit. A remarkable gathering resulted.

This memorable meeting, which was held at the Hotel Orr, was called to order by Eugene H. Crowdus, of Alpha. Dyer, of Beta, was made secretary of the meeting. The discussion developed the idea of a permanent alumni organization, which proposition was approved and executed. A constitution was adopted under the name of the Texas Sigma Nu Alumni Association, and the following officers were elected: President, Eugene H. Alford, Lambda; Vice President, Charles D. Hocker, Upsilon; Second Vice President, Eugene H. Crowdus, Alpha; Secretary, Isadore Dyer, Beta; Treasurer, William J. Crocker, Alpha. The plight of Upsilon Chapter was thoroughly discussed. Parker and Brown had succeeded in securing three initiates, and the alumni at the meeting added three others from among their acquaintances at the University, making a total of eight members to insure the continuance of Upsilon Chapter. A banquet was held at the close of the meeting at which Edwin B. Parker, speaking for the collegiate Chapter, responded to the sentiment: "Now is the Winter of our discontent made glorious Summer." Parker became one of the most distinguished citizens of the State of Texas, the most illustrious son of Upsilon Chapter, and Vice Regent of the Fraternity.

The founding of Upsilon Chapter near the close of the year 1886 marked the end of the five-year period of rapid extension which began with the founding of Kappa and Lambda Chapters, and which steady development was due almost entirely to the work of members of these two Chapters, or to members of Chapters directly descendant from them. Including Kappa and Lambda, thirteen new Chapters had been established in this five-year period, and two revivals had been accomplished. All these new Chapters and one of those revived are arranged in two genealogical lines headed respectively by Kappa and Lambda. Two other Chapters were founded later by Lambda alumni. But the impetus given extension by Howard and Robinson subsided after these two faithfuls passed their offices on to others. It was a full year before another Chapter was established. During this time the Fraternity was passing through a period of adjustment, preliminary to a new and greater development. The lack of extension during the year 1887 was not indicative of lethargy in the Fraternity. It was a lull of solemn import. Sigma Nu was at the threshold of a new era.

CHAPTER XVI

On the Threshold of an Era

THE action of the Lexington convention in placing the publication of *The Delta* under the supervision of Nu Chapter was more far-reaching in consequence than could then be realized. Rawson Bennett, of Nu, was Grand Recorder of the Fraternity, and the additional responsibility vested in that Chapter virtually lodged control of the organization in Western men. Thus was inaugurated what has become known in the history of Sigma Nu as the Bennett-Harrington period. Neither Bennett nor Harrington was a Kansan by birth. Rawson Bennett was born at Franklin, Indiana, December 5, 1863, the son of James Clinton Bennett and Flora Rawson Bennett. The family moved to Emporia, Kansas, in 1871, where the son received his high school education. Grant Harrington was born at Troy Center, Wisconsin, August 5, 1865. His parents, Eldred and Amorette Harrington, moved to the northeastern part of Kansas when Grant was three years old, becoming residents of Baker, where Grant received his elementary and high school education. While Bennett and Harrington were almost entirely responsible for the conduct of the Fraternity's administration affairs after the Lexington convention, their influence did not become dominating until four years later. At the time *The Delta* was placed in charge of the Kansas Chapter, Bennett had been away from Lawrence for a year, but was kept in close touch with the activities through Harrington, who had succeeded him as leader of Nu Chapter. Bennett's former home at Lawrence remained a shrine of Sigma Nu, his mother continuing her affectionate interest in the Fraternity. Harrington and Markley lived at her home, and Mrs. Bennett became better informed on the affairs of Sigma Nu than were most members of the organization. During its first years, Nu Chapter rented the I. O. O. F. Hall on Saturday nights where, unknown to the lodge, they appropriated the paraphernalia of that Order for use in ceremonials. In Nu's third year, rooms in the Eldridge Block in the business district of Lawrence were rented for the private use of the Chapter. The dedication of this meeting place, known as Nu Hall, marked the advent of the Chapter into social prominence, which previously it had not enjoyed.

At the time Nu Chapter assumed charge of *The Delta*, in 1886, the University of Kansas was the most important center of Greek-letter publications in the country. The I. C. *Arrow* of Pi Beta Phi, the Kappa Alpha Theta *Magazine*, and the *Shield* of Phi Kappa Psi were published by the collegiate chapters of those organizations at the University. This fact suggested to Harrington the idea of transferring the publication of *The Delta* to that place. He told Bennett of the plan when they met at Lexington, and it was agreed between them to try to bring about this change. This was easily accomplished, inasmuch as Howard was in financial distress with the venture, and was not at the Conven-

tion. Furthermore, Bennett dominated this meeting, which signaled the transition of administrative control from disorganized endeavor to centralized effort. Beginning in September, 1886, *The Delta* was published bi-monthly, with Grant W. Harrington as managing editor, and Perlee Rawson Bennett as editorial writer.

About the time that these two co-organizers of Nu Chapter accepted broadened fraternity responsibilities, Bennett entered newspaper work in Chicago. In the decade which followed, he was employed at times on papers in Milwaukee, Kansas City and Marquette, Michigan, before returning to Chicago for permanent residence. Prospect of such changes caused Bennett to contemplate resigning as Grand Recorder shortly after the Lexington convention. But Harrington urged him not to do so, agreeing to attend to the details of this office along with his other fraternity work. Accordingly, Bennett inserted a notice in *The Delta*, September, 1886, stating that he had appointed Harrington Assistant Grand Recorder, and that all communications intended for the action of the Grand Recorder or of the High Council should be sent to Lawrence, Kansas. Thus Grant Harrington became principally responsible for the administrative details of the Fraternity along with the work of *The Delta*. He also began the work of collecting material for the catalogue, which task had been assigned to the Grand Recorder. Harrington was then in his senior year of the collegiate department of the University, but remained two years after graduation to secure his degree in law.

Bennett's editorials in *The Delta* constituted the major amount of service he was able to render to the Fraternity during the year between the meetings of the Second and Third Conventions. While in volume his contributions were not extensive, in substance his writings were of tremendous importance. His editorials were designed to bring the members of the Fraternity to an accurate and honest understanding of the status of the organization, and to give them a conception of the problems of the future. The great need which Bennett pointed out was for Northern and Western extension. The force of his argument was directed mainly to discussion of how best to pursue and successfully to achieve this expansion. Other fraternities had made sensational gains by consolidation. There was a belief among many, who then were thinking seriously about the fraternity situation and its problems, that there were too many organizations. The great increase of college attendance, and the expansion of the system through large endowments and through the development of the state universities, could not then be foreseen. Consolidation was widely advocated as a remedy for vicious competition. Bennett advanced the argument favorably in a survey printed in *The Delta*, March, 1887. His attitude was summed up in the following sentences:

"Let us lay aside prejudice, be not sticklers for mere names, but zealous for principles. We can reduce the number of competitors by equitable and judicious consolidations. I will yield to no man in my love and reverence for my Fraternity, but should another order of good reputation offer to consolidate with Sigma Nu on honorable and fair terms, the proposition would receive my

heartiest support. It is not a badge or a name for which we are banded together in fraternal union, but *principle*, and so long as this is preserved the rest may go if their loss will increase the influence, honor and real power of the Order."

Bennett's interest in the consolidation movement had been aroused through an article in *The Delta* written by a member of another fraternity and signed "E. L. S." Bennett learned from John Howard, Editor of *The Delta*, that the author of this article was Edward L. Sutton, Worthy Grand Scribe of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Sutton's membership in that organization had come about through Sigma Nu. He had not attended college, but had become interested in fraternity affairs while junior partner of the firm of Sutton and Son, Dahlonega, Georgia, printers of the third issue and subsequent numbers of *The Delta*, while John Alexander Howard was Editor. Sutton and Howard became very warm friends. At Howard's suggestion, and with the benefit of his knowledge, Sutton decided to try to organize a third fraternity at North Georgia College, the belief being that in this way the Greeks could meet political control held by the literary societies. Thus was organized, in 1885, the Rho Chapter of Kappa Sigma, a development which stimulated activities of that fraternity in that section, and which resulted in Sutton's election to a national office in Kappa Sigma within two years.

The fact that Bennett and Sutton held similar offices in their respective fraternities, and that they held like views concerning consolidation, led Bennett to compare the chapter rolls of the two organizations. Bennett's great desire was for Northern Chapters. He was impressed with the fact that Kappa Sigma had Chapters in the states of Ohio, Indiana and Maine, having been second to enter Purdue University and second at the University of Maine. Sigma Nu then had Northern Chapters only at Lehigh and Kansas Universities. Bennett also made the interesting discovery that these two chapter rolls showed conflict at only Southern institutions, at two of which places Sigma Nu was newly organized, and at another place its Chapter was defunct. At the remaining institutions, North Georgia College, a mutuality naturally existed due to the origin of the Kappa Sigma Chapter there through Sigma Nu influence. The situation appeared to Bennett as providential for his plan. Accordingly, he opened "preliminary conversations" through correspondence with Sutton, the understanding being that negotiations were unofficial. Sutton's response indicated an agreeable attitude, and correspondence continued to the point of deciding upon a place of meeting for ambassadors from the two fraternities to negotiate a "Treaty of Union".

Bennett's plan was to absorb Kappa Sigma in much the same way that other organizations united about that time. Delta Tau Delta had taken in the Rainbow fraternity, older in years and at one time very strong in the South, having had a total of thirteen Chapters. Kappa Sigma Kappa, another fraternity of Southern origin that had established nine Chapters, had united with Phi Delta Theta. About the same time Beta Theta Pi absorbed the Mystical Seven, a fraternity founded two years before the Betas and which had established in all ten Chapters. John Alexander Howard had been alert to these opportunities for expansion and had urged that Sigma Nu try to effect a union with both the Rain-

bow and the Mystical Seven before they were absorbed by other fraternities. These mergers were sensations of that fraternity era and Bennett planned the crowning coup of all.

Anticipating the skepticism that would be created by the very magnitude of his scheme, Bennett decided to set it in motion before revealing his plan, believing that the momentum thus gained would ride down doubt of its possibility. The general plan was presented by Sutton to fellow members of the Supreme Council of Kappa Sigma before Bennett informed his associates of the High Council about the project. Bennett had in no way committed Sigma Nu to the plan, having made clear in all his correspondence that these preliminary negotiations were unofficial. The Kappa Sigma convention was to meet two months before the Sigma Nu Grand Chapter, and Bennett believed if their ambassadors were appointed it would at least force respectful consideration by the Grand Chapter of Sigma Nu.

Before placing the matter before the High Council, Bennett worked out the most minute details of his plan, presenting with his arguments a formal "Decree of Appointment" for Ambassadors and a "Draft of Suggestions", setting forth limitations that were to be respected and concessions that might be granted. Realizing that the name and badge would be considered most sacred by both organizations, Bennett proposed that the name Kappa Sigma Nu would be a reasonable adjustment of the one problem, and he submitted a sketch of a badge that kept unchanged the design of the Sigma Nu emblem. The Sigma Nu badge displaced the star under the crescent of the Kappa Sigma badge.

Bennett had not met Regent Daniel W. Langton at that time, and did not realize that there was as much difference in their views on extension as there was distance between the Connecticut abode of Langton's ancestors and the vast prairies of the West, where Bennett had acquired a broader conception of the future of fraternities. Langton's reply to Bennett's proposal left no hope for a favorable attitude toward the plan. Grand Treasurer George Forman was less prolix, but equally firm in his response. He rejected the proposal with curt finality, emphasizing his stand with a concluding quotation: "Here I plant my Ebenezer!"

Bennett had not expected to let his plan fail with adverse replies from his associates on the High Council. He planned to carry the fight to the Grand Chapter at Birmingham in August. At the Lexington convention Bennett's recommendations had prevailed without exception, and he believed he could by personal argument make evident the merit of his proposal. Bennett attended commencement at the University of Kansas in June, 1887. While on this trip he was offered a place on a Kansas City newspaper, which position he accepted. This prevented his going to the Grand Chapter. Along with his formal report as Grand Recorder he sent a special report presenting the correspondence with Sutton and setting forth arguments in favor of his ill-fated plan. Bennett evidently intended this only as a matter of record, for in submitting the special report to Regent Langton he also sent him the Grand Recorder's proxy to vote, which would have been cast against the plan had it been formally considered.

The "Special Report" was returned to Bennett after the convention with the endorsement: "Not approved or accepted."

The record of proceedings of the Birmingham Grand Chapter contains no mention of the Bennett proposal and no discussion related thereto, except in the adoption of the following resolution expressing the attitude of the delegates:

"*Be it Resolved,* That the Sigma Nu Fraternity is unalterably opposed to any system, mode or measure for the consolidation of said Order with any other Order.



WILSON HOTEL, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
The Third Convention, the first to be called a Grand Chapter, met in the parlors of this hotel, which stood at the northwest corner of Second Avenue and Twenty-first Street. From a pen drawing made from an old newspaper print.

"*Be it Further Resolved,* That the Editor of *The Delta* be instructed to return to the writer, unpublished, any communication in conflict with the first section of this resolution."

The third convention of Sigma Nu Fraternity, the first to be called a Grand Chapter, met in the parlors of the Wilson Hotel at Birmingham, Alabama, August 9-10, 1887. Regent Daniel W. Langton presided at the opening of the convention, but spent much of the time on the floor directing the course of the proceedings. Past Regent William Hampton Wade was in attendance. John Alexander Howard was present as a proxy-delegate from Kappa Chapter. Division Chiefs Clarence Wainwright Murphey, Lambda, and Harvey Helm, Zeta, were in attendance. Ten Chapters were represented in person or by proxy, including the Birmingham Alumni Chapter, the first Alumni Chapter to be

organized, and hence the first to be represented at a Grand Chapter. Fifteen visitors were in attendance, with the fifteen voting delegates making a total attendance of thirty members. A sign of healthy interest was the presence of seven alumni members who had attended previous conventions, Langton, Howard and Dean of the immortal eight who composed the first meeting at Nashville; Murphey, Robertson, Loveman and Davidson, who were delegates at the Lexington convention.

The Birmingham Grand Chapter spent much of its time in considering changes in the Constitution. A proposed revision was discussed section by section, but the amendments adopted were not properly recorded and were never promulgated. At the next Grand Chapter all legislation of the Birmingham convention was declared abrogated. One of the most interesting contests at Birmingham was over the petition from a local fraternity at Louisiana State University. The petitioners formally had been members of Alpha Chapter of Kappa Sigma Kappa and had objected to the merger of that fraternity with Phi Delta Theta. The petition had the support of most of the members of the Birmingham Alumni Chapter. Regent Langton was on the other side against his Alabama Brothers. Opposition was voiced by others on the theory that this would countenance consolidation. This argument was refuted by the fact that there was no longer a national fraternity of Kappa Sigma Kappa and that the petitioners were now merely a local society. A charter was finally granted by a vote of twenty-eight to six.

Bennett's report as Grand Recorder was the most weighty matter appearing in the proceedings. It showed characteristic thoroughness of thought and repeated Bennett's views on extension which he had submitted in his report to the Second Convention. The only innovation of note is revealed in the following excerpt:

"At the Lexington convention Brother Murphey suggested the creation of a degree for the alumni, and those who had permanently left college, as a means of preserving interest in the Order.

"A beginning was made in this direction at Kansas Chapter this year, Brothers Harris, Harrington, Markley and Bennett forming themselves into a 'Council of Emeriti'. They ask approval of their work by the Grand Chapter in a communication herewith."

No evidence of discussion of or action upon this recommendation appears in the printed proceedings.

Bennett suggested that the word "alumnus" be inserted in place of the words "Active Chapter" in designating by whom *The Delta* should be published. The intent was to enable Harrington to continue in charge, since he had been graduated from the collegiate department of the University of Kansas. Harrington had planned to be present at Birmingham, but lacked the funds to pay his expenses, his year's service to the Fraternity having been given gratis and a personal deficit of fifty dollars having been incurred in the publication of *The Delta*. In the following tribute Bennett's report gave the delegates a conception of Harrington's labors for the Fraternity:

"I can find no more fitting place than this to pay a richly deserved tribute

to a Brother whose energy and ability has stood the Fraternity in good stead during the past year. I refer to Grant Woodbury Harrington, Chief of the Fourth Division, and publisher of *The Delta*. I say no more than the truth, when I say that the work of the Grand Recorder's Office could not have proceeded at all this year without Brother Harrington. Early in the year, I foresaw that I



DANIEL W. LANGTON, THETA
Elected Grand Treasurer at the First Convention. Three times elected Regent, serving 1886 to 1890. Picture reproduced from a faded photograph of the Fourth Grand Chapter.

would be unable to attend to the routine work of the Office, and appointed him my Assistant Grand Recorder. Right well has he fulfilled his task. During the past year, Brother Harrington has written hundreds of letters. He has published *The Delta* with the brilliant success that we all know; he has carried on the routine work of the Grand Recorder's Office; he has collected about one-half of the material needed for a complete catalogue of the Fraternity; he has gathered from many sources a large amount of most valuable historical mate-

rial. In addition to all this, he has kept up his college work in fine style, graduating second in a class of thirty."

The election of officers at the close of the Birmingham Grand Chapter resulted in the re-election of Daniel W. Langton, Regent, and the selection of William Hampton Wade for Vice Regent. John Alexander Howard was made Grand Treasurer and Rawson Bennett was re-elected Grand Recorder. The following Division Chiefs were chosen: I, Clarence W. Murphey, Lambda; II, Gerald M. Fountain, Eta; III, Harvey Helm, Zeta; IV, Frank A. Marshall, Nu; V, Reuben Daniels, Pi. Asheville, North Carolina, was selected as the place for holding the convention the next year.

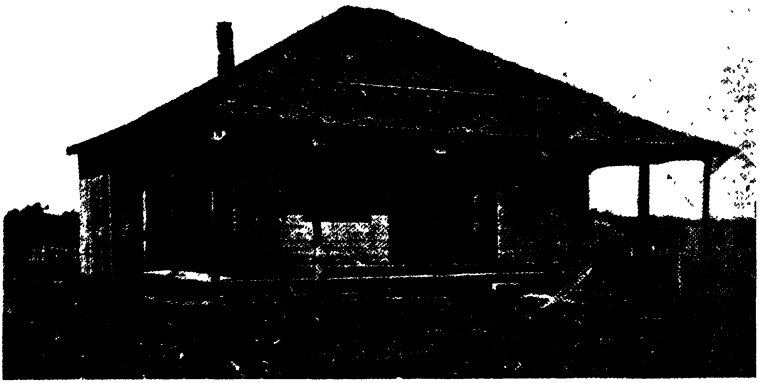
The Birmingham Grand Chapter passed into history as notable for its social features rather than for its legislation. The local alumni gave the visitors such a royal time that convention business was neglected. No one thought to make a permanent record of the amendments to the Constitution that were adopted. But thirty-five years later, when another Grand Chapter met at Birmingham, the old-timers were still telling of the wonderful banquet, the ball and the good-fellowship of the first Grand Chapter at Birmingham. Serious-minded, methodical Rawson Bennett frequently referred to this third convention as "that abortive Grand Chapter at Birmingham". The absence of Bennett and Harrington partly accounts for the lack of constructive legislation. Inasmuch as the time was not opportune for the issue to be drawn between their progressive program and Langton's conservative policy, it was fortunate, in view of later developments, that the Birmingham Grand Chapter merely marked time in a legislative sense.

The establishment of the Chapter at Louisiana State University, authorized at Birmingham, was not consummated until December of that year on account of the necessity for observing certain stipulations which had been imposed with the granting of the charter. The University of Louisiana was opened in 1860 at Alexandria. It was closed during a portion of the Civil War period and was reopened in 1865. In 1869 its buildings burned, and the latter part of that year the University was re-established at Baton Rouge. In 1887 the Louisiana Agricultural and Mechanical College was united with the University, which had been moved to the grounds of the United States Barracks, donated by the government. Fraternity activity began soon after the close of the Civil War, Sigma Alpha Epsilon establishing a Chapter in 1867, but for extensive periods being dormant. Kappa Alpha (S) entered in 1885 and Kappa Sigma in 1887.

During the college year 1884-85 David N. Barrow, a former student of Louisiana State University, entered Virginia Military Institute and was initiated into Kappa Sigma Kappa, a promising fraternity founded there in 1867, which achieved a total of eight Chapters. The year Barrow entered V. M. I., Alpha Chapter of Sigma Nu was still on that peak of supremacy where Omohundro, Yeatman and their associates had raised its standard. In the fall of 1885 Barrow re-entered Louisiana State University with authority to establish a Chapter of Kappa Sigma Kappa. This was successfully accomplished, and the designation Alpha was given to the Chapter. Fraternities then existed at Louisiana State University contrary to regulations, but not without the knowl-

edge of the faculty. A total of fifteen members were enrolled by the end of the first year. The new Chapter resumed operation the next fall with great enthusiasm. Steps were taken toward the establishment of their fraternity at the University of Texas, and toward reviving it at New Orleans and in Mississippi.

In the midst of this activity, a letter was received from the secretary of the general fraternity informing the Chapter that consolidation of Kappa Sigma Kappa with Phi Delta Theta had been effected, and offering the Louisiana members enrollment under the new banner. The Chapter had not been consulted in the matter, and indignantly refused to follow the others into Phi Delta Theta. They determined to continue their organization as a local, but later in



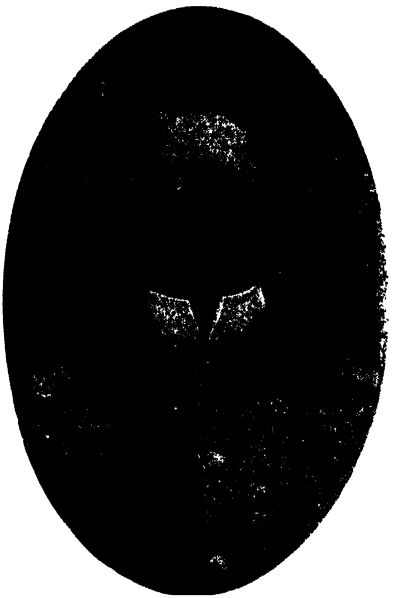
PHI'S FIRST CHAPTER HOUSE
In this house situated in an isolated spot on the campus, the Chapter at Louisiana State University held its early meetings.

the year decided upon the advisability of petitioning a national fraternity of their own choice. A copy of *The Delta* came into their possession, and its contents impressed them. Barrow knew of the excellence of Sigma Nu at V. M. I., and this encouraged favor for this Fraternity. Correspondence with Assistant Grand Recorder Harrington was begun, and under his guidance the group was led to decide upon Sigma Nu. Harrington realized that the situation was generally unfavorable for a vote at that time, and urged the petitioners to send representatives to the Birmingham Grand Chapter to voice their appeal. James R. Jiggits appeared before the convention, where the petition was heartily endorsed by members of the Birmingham Alumni Chapter. Opposition was encountered, but the vote was favorable by a large majority.

A reorganization of the group which had composed the Kappa Sigma Kappa Chapter was effected before proceeding with the installation. Delay in receiving the charter further postponed this event, and disrupted the plan to have a member of the Fraternity present to conduct the initiation. The charter and secret work were finally received by mail, and on December 22, 1887, the following members subscribed themselves to the obligations and became the charter members of Phi Chapter: James R. Jiggits, Henry S. Cocram, Whitmell P.

Martin, Samuel M. Lyons, Jackson L. Bryan, Henry M. Furman, James M. Batchelor, Winston Overton, William Duty, John L. Avery, William L. Dupuy and Hicks L. Youngs.

The principal honors of the University were won by these men. Jiggits, Martin, Lyons and Batchelor became captains in the Cadet Corps. and other military offices were won by members of the Chapter. Jiggits and Furman won the presidency of the literary society in successive years. and served as vale-



SAMUEL M. LYONS, PHI-BETA PHI
Charter member of the Louisiana State University Chapter who served as a Division Chief.



CHARLES K. FUQUA, PHI
Organizer of the Louisiana State Association, an active worker in the sessions of two Grand Chapters.

dictorian of their respective classes. The Chapter early won favor with the faculty, receiving official recognition and the use of a room in one of the buildings for its meetings. This first meeting place was in the basement of what was known as "C" building. It was exceedingly incommodious, secret work and private conversation having to be whispered. The place served its purpose for two years, however, when the president of the University gave the Chapter permission to repair and use a frame building isolated on a bluff within the University grounds. Later, the University desired this building removed for a plan of improvement, and bore the expense of placing it in another location. It was a very modest beginning for a chapter house, but it admitted the close fellowship enjoyed by Phi's early members, and the building became reverenced in their memories. David N. Barrow, primarily responsible for Phi's existence, was graduated the spring before the Sigma Nu charter was granted, and became a member of the faculty of the University. He declined at first

to accept membership in the new Chapter because of his faculty relationship, but later was initiated and became an enthusiastic member of Sigma Nu.

Two of the charter members of Phi Chapter, Lyons and Furman, served as officers of the general Fraternity. Lyons was made Chief of his Division within a few months after Phi Chapter was installed. Furman became very active in the general organization work, and was elected Grand Treasurer of Sigma Nu.



MAIN BUILDING, CORNELL COLLEGE, IOWA
View of part of the campus of Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, where for many years Chi Chapter pursued its colorful career.

He became a professor in the University, and for many years was the standby of Phi Chapter. Charles K. Fuqua, an initiate of the Chapter's first year, also became very prominent in the Fraternity's affairs, the organization of the Louisiana State Alumni Association, in 1888, having been the first service credited to him outside his chapter labors. Several other early members of Phi Chapter were active in extension work and in furthering fraternity associations. The credit for the founding of a Chapter at Tulane University was shared by early members of Phi Chapter. Whitmell Martin, charter member of Phi, led in a revival of Beta Chapter at the University of Virginia. He became a congressman from Louisiana. The action of the Birmingham Grand Chapter in granting this charter was certainly justified by the Chapter's early record.

The year following the Birmingham Grand Chapter was almost devoid of activity in general fraternity affairs, due principally to a deadlocked situation in the High Council in the matter of extension. This lack of co-ordination existed to the extent that for quite a period the Regent was incommunicative, and the Grand Recorder's office was forced to extreme measures to meet resultant situations. The most radical procedure in this emergency was in connection with a petition that had been received from students at Cornell College, Mount Ver-

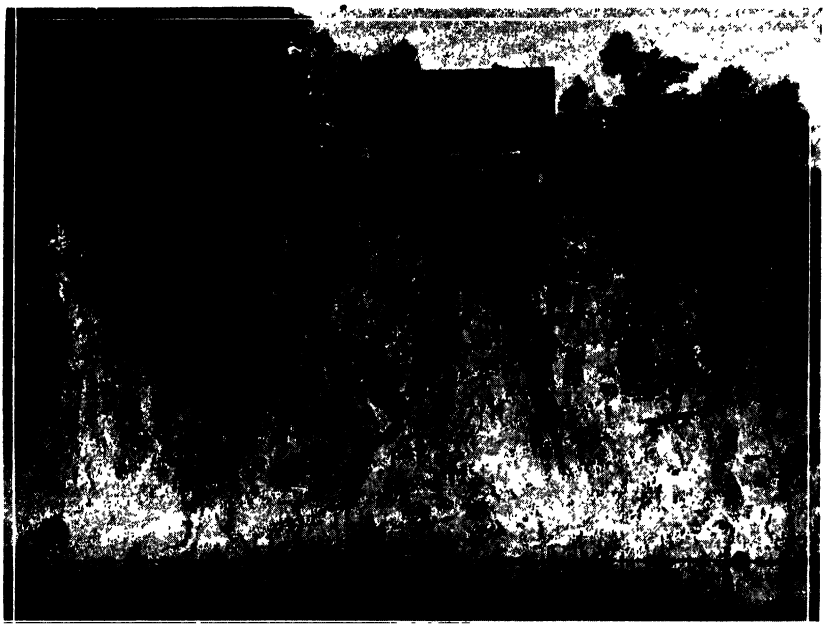
non, Iowa. Grant Harrington, then serving as Assistant Grand Recorder, recognized in this opportunity an opening toward the University of Iowa and other desirable institutions to which Cornell College students went for post-graduate work. Cornell College was then one of the best endowed, best accredited and best equipped denominational schools in the country. It was founded in 1857 under the control of the Iowa Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and gave instruction in the classics, sciences, philosophy and civil engineering. There were about two hundred and fifty students in these departments in 1887. With preparatory students and those in the music and arts departments, a total of over four hundred were affiliated with the institution. Mount Vernon was a typical little college town of that period, with ideal surroundings for fraternity associations, except for its traditions.



CARL LANE CLEMANS
Founder and charter member of Chi Chapter, Cornell College, Iowa.

The Adelphian and Amphictyon literary societies vied with each other for glory at Cornell College, and combined in their antagonism to Greek-letter fraternities. In 1868 Phi Kappa Psi established a Chapter there, but the student body was so hostile to its presence that, in 1871, the faculty was influenced to pass an antifraternity ruling. During the next fifteen years there was almost constant *sub rosa* fraternity activity. In the college year 1886-87, when the petition came to Sigma Nu, it was claimed that Phi Kappa Psi and Beta Theta Pi were operating under cover. The president of the College was interviewed regarding the petition to Sigma Nu, and when told who composed the group and that they planned to exist openly, he sanctioned the enterprise. The majority of faculty members were not opposed to fraternities. Expediency had caused the yielding to the student majority, and it was believed that another attempt to run openly might succeed.

The leader of the group which petitioned Sigma Nu was Carl Lane Clemans, a senior of outstanding popularity. In correspondence with Harrington, a bond of mutual concord at once became established. Having been assured of the president's favor, Harrington was naturally elated over the prospect, and promulgated the petition with manifest enthusiasm. None but affirmative votes came from the Chapters, and three of the four High Council members gave immediate assent to the granting of a charter. Only the Regent's approval was lacking, while repeated appeals to Langton failed to bring response. Commencement week was near, and the petitioners were eager to "come out" before that time, when Clemans and another of the group were to be graduated. Finally, in desperation, Harrington telegraphed authority to Clemans, and sent



CLIFF HOUSE
The Lodge of Chi Chapter on the Palisades of Cedar River.

him the secret work and instructions for the establishment of a Chapter of Sigma Nu.

Chi Chapter began a spectacular career in May, 1888, making its existence known on the campus at Cornell College two weeks before commencement, with the following charter members: Carl Lane Clemans, Myron H. Sabin, Clarence A. Torrey, Hiram O. Bateman, Clarence E. Locke and Herbert R. Wright. David H. Fouse was initiated at commencement time, along with George A. Bateman, a graduate of the preceding year, who had returned for commencement exercises. The new Chapter was increased to twelve in number the next year. Among these early members were presidents of both literary societies, which were strongly opposed to admission of fraternities. This fact did not indicate a waning of the opposition, but was instead a reason for renewed antagonism by the majority of the members of the literary societies. Chi Chapter felt secure, however, under the recognition given by the president of the College. But during the latter part of the year 1889-90 student sentiment became so pronounced that again the faculty was forced to yield to its demands, and the ruling against fraternities was invoked. Members of Chi Chapter were required to sign pledges to cease initiations, and the literary societies passed a rule making expulsion the penalty for any member belonging to a fraternity.

These developments brought Clemans back to Mount Vernon the next year



THE PALISADES
Picturesque setting of Chi Chapter's secluded retreat on Cedar River.

to investigate and to act. It was learned that the faculty majority was still unopposed to fraternities, and that they had agreed to remove the restriction if other fraternities should enter, thus to placate some of the envious students who were leading the opposition. Clemans initiated two students while he was in Mount Vernon. No pledge had been required of any except those known to belong to Chi Chapter, and Clemans started the nucleus of a *sub rosa* Chapter with members not bound by the faculty pledge. Harrington visited Mount Vernon that year with Clemans, and in a letter to Bennett thus described his experience:

"I met Clemans at Cedar Rapids, and together we went down to Cornell. The boys turned out and held a meeting in Torrey's room, and we discussed ways and means. There are six of the old men there now and two new ones. The old boys are held by their pledges to the faculty not to do any fraternity work, but Clemans has initiated two sophomores who have taken the work in hand, and will go on with the Chapter. The old boys attend their meetings, and when a man is proposed they announce that they are out of it, but if they had a vote they would favor that man. The two active fellows then pass the ballot boxes to themselves and declare the man is elected. One has to be present and see the fun to appreciate it."

Eight members were initiated during the year 1889-90. The spirit of Chi Chapter seemed to thrive on opposition, and during the next few years fraternity associations of such unique and loyal manifestations were enjoyed that Chi became a symbol of fidelity and zeal and the Chapter's record a cherished

tradition in Sigma Nu. The satisfaction of outwitting its opponents and the charm of extreme secrecy added zest to its activities. Meetings were attended with utmost precaution as a rule, but at times risks were taken for the thrill of the experience. One of the first meetings after the antifraternity laws were



GRANT W. HARRINGTON, NU
As Editor of *The Delta* and Assistant Grand Recorder, he became virtually sole administrator of the affairs of the Fraternity in 1886.

imposed was held in the chapel, where entrance was gained through a transom. The Chapter met at times in Lisbon, one mile from Mount Vernon, where two of the early members resided. In seasonable weather a secluded spot on the palisades of Cedar River was the secret meeting place, access to which was gained by boat and by climbing steep steps, which the neophytes helped carve along the face of the cliff. Initiations were held in the open in this wild retreat for several years. Later a Chapter lodge, known as the Cliff House, was built there, its huge fire-place making it an attractive winter rendezvous. Over the

ice of Cedar River and up the snow-covered ledges of the cliff the members made their way to this cabin on many occasions. There, by candle light, the mysteries of Sigma Nu were disclosed to many of Chi's initiates, and before the blazing fire-place the members enjoyed fellowship made fascinating by this environment.

Chi Chapter had to fight constantly for its existence. Because of this opposition, fraternal ties were strengthened and loyalty was tested by experiences which made stronger the faith and zeal of the members. Since antagonism emanated from the student body and did not represent the attitude of a majority of the faculty, the general Fraternity did not in this case assert its policy of later years against permitting a Chapter to exist contrary to official decree. For a quarter of a century Chi Chapter was allowed to pursue its unique career. During much of that period faculty opposition was passive, being evidenced only when students produced proof of fraternity activity. Thus the contest became a form of college sport. After twenty-five years of such indulgence, the situation became so acute that the faculty became determined. Under such circumstances the general Fraternity could not ignore its policy of upholding college authorities in their proper jurisdiction, and the charter of Chi Chapter was revoked in 1913.

In certain respects this founding was one of the most important in the Fraternity's history. The progressive instincts of Carl Lane Clemans, his inherent fraternal zeal and aggressive loyalty, were early instilled into the members of Chi Chapter. Out of this establishment, upon which Grant Harrington staked his official connection with Sigma Nu, came results which justified the Bennett-Harrington policy of expansion, strengthening the power as well as the purpose of these leaders in planning and pursuing a program of Western extension. In this conquest members of Chi Chapter, under the guidance of Harrington, made a record exceeded only by Lambda's members in chapter founding activities.

Harrington was a great believer in the small college Chapter as an adjunct in the growth of the Fraternity into the larger institutions of the country. He observed that other fraternities which were achieving a truly national representation were feeding strength into their more conspicuous establishments from the smaller institutions where an intimate and militant fraternity spirit was more naturally fostered. Denominational colleges, such as dotted the states of Iowa and Missouri, were then very popular. They were as a rule amply endowed, and generally furnished the men who were most active in Greek-letter organizations in that section. State universities had not then developed their strength, and fraternities found more difficulty in maintaining Chapters at such institutions than in the smaller colleges. Cornell College at that time was said to be the equal of the State University of Iowa in curricula and in attendance. Harrington was alert for other opportunities such as developed at Cornell College. Shortly after Chi was established he received a petition from Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri. Beta Theta Pi and Phi Delta Theta had prosperous Chapters there, and Harrington advocated this entry with the same

faith that he had expressed in the petition from Cornell College. Regent Langton did not again risk ignoring the call for an expression of his opinion and immediately sent a negative vote. It was the first communication that Harrington had received from the Regent in months. Harrington was already exasperated, as the following extracts from letters to Bennett evidence:

"Have had no word from Langton, and the printers are pressing me for that $80. I wrote Langton what I had done about Cornell. I expect him to raise a row over the matter. If he does, I will go to Asheville and make it hot for him. We have drifted long enough under a do-nothing policy, and I am getting tired of it. You ask about my report for the year. There is no report to make except this Cornell matter."

As the time for the Asheville Grand Chapter approached, Harrington's prospects of "making it hot" for Langton were threatened by financial limitations. Again he wrote Bennett:

"What do you hear from Langton? He does not answer any of my letters. I look for a mix-up at Asheville, and don't see how we are to settle it if neither of us go. Have written Murphey giving details of the whole matter, telling him what should be done, and asking him to whom we should send our proxies to have it done. I wish I could go, but do not see where the money is to come from. I would like to lock horns with Langton for about two days."

It should be remembered that Harrington was still a student at that time, with another year to go before receiving his law degree. For two years he had attended to the duties of the Grand Recorder's Office, together with the entire responsibility for publishing *The Delta*, and while constantly pursuing the catalogue work. All this service was rendered without financial compensation. Harrington was making his way through the University by employment on a newspaper, and naturally he could not afford the expense of the trip to Asheville. About three weeks before the convention the way began to open up for him following receipt of a letter from Bennett with similar hope, to which letter Harrington replied:

"Was glad to hear from you, and to find that there is a prospect of your going to Asheville. The Colonel will give me a pass to Memphis, and will try for one from there on. If he succeeds, I will be there. Otherwise, I don't know how I can make it."

Harrington "made it" to Asheville, and for two days "locked horns" with Langton.

CHAPTER XVII

The Evolution of a Policy

THERE was no personal feeling involved in the differences between Regent Langton and Grant Harrington. They represented conflicting ideas that existed regarding the attitude and the purpose of college fraternities at that period of their development. Langton was strongly inclined toward the policy of exclusive Eastern fraternities in which membership was largely extended to those who could run the gauntlet of wealth and social position. Harrington favored the course of the organizations whose chapter rolls embraced many of the smaller institutions in the West, where a broader conception of fraternity ideals was being developed. The divergent paths of these two types of fraternities were marked, and it was inevitable that Sigma Nu must decide which course to pursue. For two years progress had been retarded through lack of accord between the Regent and the Grand Recorder's Office, and Harrington was determined to force the issue at Asheville.

The Fourth Grand Chapter met at the Battery Park Hotel in Asheville, North Carolina, August 13-14, 1888. The attendance was not as large as at the Birmingham and Lexington conventions, but more Chapters were represented by delegates or proxies, a total of twelve Chapters being accounted for in the final credentials report. The reduced attendance was taken to indicate that the Fraternity could not creditably support annual Grand Chapter meetings, and upon Harrington's recommendation the delegates voted to return to the original plan of biennial conventions. Although a decrease in attendance was registered, greater efficiency was forecast by the fact that a majority of those present had attended one or more previous conventions. Regent Langton, Louis L. Dean and Morris Loveman, all of Theta Chapter, John Alexander Howard, of Kappa, and Clarence Murphey, of Lambda, registered their third appearance. Rawson Bennett and Grant Harrington, of Nu Chapter, and Miller Ward, of Zeta, had attended the Second Convention held at Lexington. Three of the four High Council members were included in this list of "repeaters". At previous conventions but a single member had represented this official body. Thus constituted, the Asheville Grand Chapter consumed its time wholly in convention business and was entirely without formal social functions.

The Constitution received thorough study and criticism under Bennett's able direction. The necessity for safeguarding unalterable fundamentals was argued, and the existence of inconsistencies and ambiguities was pointed out by him. Bennett was authorized to prepare the first codification of the Law, and it was voted to make the next Grand Chapter a Constitutional Convention. Bennett also urged amplification of the Ritual, presenting the Red Book of Nu Chapter with elaborations he had interpolated, the form of which was adopted



FOURTH GRAND CHAPTER, ASHEVILLE, N. C., AUGUST 13-14, 1888

Left to right—Morris Loveman, Theta; Louis D. Hopson, Delta; Marshall D. Murray, Delta; John Alexander Howard, Kappa, Founder of *The Delta;* Rawson Bennett, Nu, retiring Grand Recorder; Clarence W. Murphey, Lambda, Vice Regent-elect; Louis L. Dean, Theta; Samuel M. Lyons, Phi; Grant W. Harrington, Nu, Grand Recorder-elect; Daniel W. Langton, Theta, Regent; J. Miller Ward, Zeta.

as a basis for extensions of the Ritual that Bennett was authorized to prepare.

Harrington's report as Assistant Grand Recorder evidenced the stagnation of administrative functions during the year, due to uncertainty arising from the confused proceedings of the Birmingham Grand Chapter, and to the lack of co-ordination in the High Council. Harrington's collections for the year amounted to $19.00 in dues and fifty cents for the only initiation fee paid to him. Grand Treasurer Howard reported the collection of only $19.50 during



BATTERY PARK HOTEL, ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
As it appeared in 1888 when the Fourth Grand Chapter met there.

the year, and called attention to the fact that the fifty dollars due him on the old *Delta* deficit was unpaid. The finance committee prepared a statement showing financial transactions reported by the different offices for a period of two years, revealing a balance of $80.61 cash in the general fund, against which audited bills for $130.00 were outstanding. The catalogue fund, to which was added each year one-third of total dues received, showed a cash balance of $138.07, which kept the Fraternity from being bankrupt.

All the Chapters were more or less in arrears for their dues, some for three or four years. Due to the deficiencies of the financial system, it was found impossible to determine with accuracy the amount each Chapter was delinquent. Because of this fact, the finance committee recommended that all dues up to the end of the college year 1886-87 be remitted. As an alternative to financial laxity, dues were made payable in quarterly installments. The quarterly dues were fixed at fifty cents for each collegiate member, the initiation fee of one dollar covering the first installment of dues from the initiate.

The Asheville Grand Chapter made definite provision for the completion and publication of a catalogue, authorizing Grant Harrington to visit Lexington, Virginia, to retrieve the records of members of Alpha Chapter. A chapter

house building and loan plan presented by Harrington received favorable action, but was never put into operation. Dispensations were granted to Dallas Flannagan, Alpha, and William G. Somerville, Theta, then attending Columbia College in the City of New York, to establish a Chapter there, and to Harvey S. McCutcheon, Omicron, to establish a Chapter at the University of the South. Neither of these two charter proposals, which were made by Harrington, involved the differences between him and Langton. But the issue was brought out when Harrington appealed to the Grand Chapter in behalf of the Westminster College petition which the Regent had defeated.

In presenting the petition of the Chi Beta Delta local of Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, Harrington took occasion to voice his views on expansion, especially emphasizing the desirability of trans-Mississippi states as virgin ground where Sigma Nu could acquire strength to force a way into other sections. The granting of this petition was opposed in a speech by Regent Langton, who argued against entering small colleges lacking wide reputation. This argument brought an answer from Bennett, who pointed out that such success as Sigma Nu had accomplished had come principally through Chapters located in the smaller institutions. He declared that it was the experience of fraternities acquiring a truly national aspect that the smaller colleges not only provided more ideal environment for fraternities, but that they produced the material with which other fraternities were building their Chapters in the larger institutions. Loveman made a motion that the Westminster petition be left to the decision of the incoming High Council. With Langton's re-election in prospect, this motion was not favored by those supporting Harrington's views, but it won the votes of those on middle ground and prevailed.

The re-election of Langton meant not merely the defeat of the Westminster petition, but a continued check to the policy advocated by Harrington, who believed that Western extension not only anticipated prosperity in that section, but that it was the direction from which Sigma Nu should grow into the East. Accordingly, it was decided to nominate some one in opposition to Langton for Regent. The contest was brought into the open following the call for election of officers. The proceedings record the result as follows:

"Brother Howard nominated for Regent Brother Daniel Webster Langton, of Theta.

"Brother Murphey nominated Brother Eugene Crowdus, of Alpha.

"Brother Bennett seconded the nomination of Brother Crowdus.

"Brother Dean seconded the nomination of Brother Langton.

"Brother Harrington seconded the nomination of Brother Crowdus, taking occasion to say that he opposed Brother Langton merely on account of the latter's over-conservatism in extension.

"This brought out a speech of reply and defense from Brother Langton.

"The Grand Chapter applauded both Brothers, and took occasion to praise their truly fraternal frankness. The roll was then called and resulted as follows: Langton, 23½; Crowdus, 18½.

"On motion of Brother Harrington, Brother Daniel Webster Langton was elected by acclamation for a third term in the office of Regent."

The vote on the regency was not truly indicative of the sentiment of the Grand Chapter on the subject of expansion. The progressives were handicapped by not having their candidate present, and the popularity of Langton won votes regardless of the issue involved. He was "Our Dan" not only to Theta, but to every Sigma Nu who came in contact with his commanding personality. He had a dignity of nature that was impressive, yet a warm-hearted manner that was appealing. He evidenced culture and refinement without affectation, demonstrating superior talents without being officious or overbearing. No one questioned his fidelity and devotion to the Fraternity, and the unanimous vote proposed by Harrington, after the matter of policy had been eliminated, was a proper indication of regard for "Dan" Langton, the only member ever elected the third time to the office of Regent.



JAMES W. OUZTS, TAU
Grand Treasurer, 1888-90. Leading spirit in the founding of the Citadel Chapter.

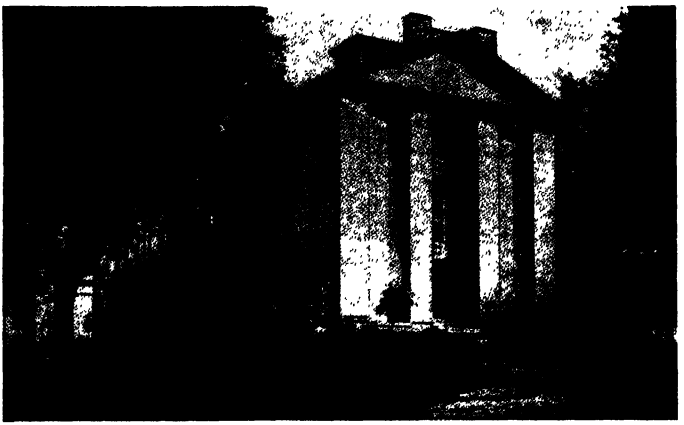


CLARENCE W. MURPHEY, LAMBDA
Vice Regent, 1888-1892. He attended four of the first five conventions.

Clarence Wainwright Murphey, of Lambda, was elected Vice Regent at the Asheville Grand Chapter. James W. Ouzts, of Tau, was made Grand Treasurer. Grant Harrington was elected Grand Recorder, the work of which office he had performed during the two terms that Bennett had served nominally. Harrington was also made Editor of *The Delta*, the publication of which was taken from the charge of an active Chapter, which had been a nominal arrangement, inasmuch as Harrington had been responsible for its publication from the date that Howard had retired as Editor. The following Division Chiefs were named: I, Walter A. Conant,

Delta; II, Samuel M. Lyons, Phi; III, Ossian Crockett, Sigma; IV, Herbert R. Wright, Chi; V, Richard H. Morris, Pi.

Immediately after the close of the Asheville Grand Chapter, Harrington journeyed to Lexington, Virginia, where he spent three days searching the records of V. M. I. and files of magazines, seeking information concerning members of Alpha Chapter. This quest was in behalf of the catalogue, but the contribu-



OLD EAST BUILDING
Ancient building at University of North Carolina as pictured in an early *Delta*.

tion made to the history archives was of equal importance. It was during vacation period, but Harrington was given *carte blanche* privileges in the library and record rooms, where with characteristic energy and thoroughness he gathered valuable information concerning the members of the Mother Chapter. Returning to Lawrence, Kansas, Harrington established himself for his final year of study preparatory to receiving his degree in law, carrying the varied responsibilities of the office of Grand Recorder, the editorship of *The Delta*, and the work of preparing, compiling and publishing the first Sigma Nu catalogue.

The first official action by the new High Council was the granting of a petition to a group at the University of North Carolina. This institution had been regarded generally as one of the most attractive fraternity centers in the South, and there was no disagreement over the granting of this petition. The University of North Carolina is located at Chapel Hill, about twenty miles from Raleigh, the state capital. It is situated on a sloping hill in the midst of a grove of forest trees, the fifty-acre campus being enclosed by a stone wall five feet in height. The charter for the establishment of the University was granted in 1784, but its actual beginning was not until the year 1793. It ceased operation during the Civil War, but reopened soon after the end of that conflict. It was closed again in 1868, when during reconstruction difficulties this region was declared in a state of insurrection. The University resumed operation in 1875, and soon regained its place of prominence and influence.

Fraternities were attracted to the University of North Carolina early in the development of the extension movement. Antifraternity laws did not exist, and this University was then conceded to be one of the most advantageous positions in the country. Delta Kappa Epsilon led the way in 1850, followed by Phi Gamma Delta in 1851; Beta Theta Pi, 1852; Delta Psi, 1854; Delta Phi and Chi Psi in 1855; Phi Kappa Sigma, 1856; Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Theta Delta Chi in 1857; Zeta Psi and Chi Phi in 1858; Alpha Tau Omega, 1879; Kappa Alpha (S), 1881; and Phi Delta Theta in 1885.

Carey D. Grandy, of Alpha, planned to establish a Chapter of Sigma Nu at the University of North Carolina, where he became professor of natural philosophy and civil engineering in 1876. Failing health interrupted his activities, and his untimely death defeated his ambition to plant the colors of his Fraternity at Chapel Hill. In the summer of 1884 Clarence W. Murphey, of Lambda, secured a charter for the establishment of a Chapter at the University of North Carolina, initiating at Salisbury a friend, William H. White, who had attended the University the previous year. White failed to return in the fall as he had planned to do, and nothing further was done toward the establishment of a Chapter at that time. John Alexander Howard prepared this charter which he signed along with Regent Arthur and General Secretary Robinson, giving it the designation of Gamma, the name of the defunct resident Chapter at Asheville. This charter was returned to Howard after the venture failed, and the action thus was annulled.

In the fall of 1888 Clarence Murphey, the "e" adopted in professional usage, interested his cousin, Walter Murphy, of Salisbury, in a proposal to organize a Chapter of Sigma Nu at the University of North Carolina. Walter Murphy entered as a freshman that fall, and induced two other freshmen, a sophomore and a junior, to join him in petitioning Sigma Nu. Clarence Murphey was then Vice Regent, and with his associates on the High Council gave official sanction to the petition. The organization was effected in October, 1888, the new Chapter being designated as Psi. The name of William H. White heads the list of Psi's charter members, the failure to relocate Gamma Chapter at the University of North Carolina having left him without a chapter connection. He had become an enthusiastic member of Sigma Nu, and the attachment was inherited by a son who became a member of Pi Chapter at Lehigh University. The inclusion of William H. White as a charter member of Psi is altogether complimentary, for he took no part in the inauguration of this Chapter.

To Walter Murphy belongs principal credit for founding Psi Chapter in the midst of most forbidding circumstances. Those associated with him as charter members were John T. Bennett and Crawford D. Bennett, brothers, John M. Covington and William E. Darden. Immediately after they were chartered, Frank H. Beall and George E. Butler were taken in, sharing the credit for the organization work. In Psi's first official report to the Grand Recorder, it is stated that "the boys desire to express their gratitude to Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Delta Kappa Epsilon for favors shown them in their efforts to gain a footing".

Walter Murphy became at once a popular favorite on the campus, and from

the moment he joined Sigma Nu throughout his intimate alumni connection with the University, his prominence has reflected honor upon the Chapter. He was for four years center on the football team which one year won the southern championship. He was business manager of the *University Weekly* in 1892, and was editor-in-chief in 1893; business manager of the *Annual* in 1893; and president of his senior law class. As an alumnus, Walter Murphy served as secretary of the faculty, and for many years as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University. He founded the *Alumni Review*, and was its first editor. He served at times as secretary and president of the alumni association. During eleven terms in the state legislature, twice serving as speaker, his influence in behalf of the University was very great.



WALTER MURPHY, PSI
Leading spirit in the founding of the University of North Carolina Chapter, long active in the work of the Fraternity.

The roll of early members of Psi Chapter embraces an array of honor men in every department of University activity. During the first seven years, a total of fourteen members had won honor places in scholarship, including *summa cum laude* bestowed upon one of them. Fourteen places on the Varsity football team had been filled by Sigma Nus in that period, including a captaincy one year. Thirteen places had been won on the Varsity baseball team. Nineteen representatives had served on University publications, including one editor-in-chief of each the *University Weekly*, the *Magazine* and the *Annual*, and business manager one time on the *Weekly* and one time on the *Annual*. Miscellaneous honors, including class officers, orators, managers of athletic teams, presidencies of Y. M. C. A. and athletic association, and various other connections accorded as honors in the University, made a total of one hundred and twenty-nine places won during the first seven years. The leadership of Walter Murphy was augmented during that period by the work of Victor Hugo Boyden, whose activities extended to general fraternity service. Boyden was twice elected Chief of the First Division, and was one of the most enthusiastic fraternity workers ever initiated at Chapel Hill. George Stephens, Psi's twenty-ninth initiate, won a place close to Walter Murphy as a loyal patron and devoted alumnus of the University of North Carolina Chapter.

A serious antifraternity movement acquired threatening momentum at the University of North Carolina during the years 1893-94. The "barbs" established their own publication, and fought the fraternities viciously. About the

same time the legislature considered curtailment of support to the University, and the situation at Chapel Hill was very discouraging. The Board of Trustees of the University took cognizance of the antifraternity feeling, adopting a rule forbidding initiation of a student until the second term of his sophomore year. Psi Chapter initiated but one man during the year 1894, and it was more than a year before another initiate was added. During the college year 1894-95, some of the antifraternity leaders were taken in by the Greeks, breaking up the opposition and influencing a removal of restrictions. Favorable action by the legislature in the matter of appropriations also relieved the threatening situation, and Psi Chapter resumed its career of prosperity with new spirit.

Two months after the founding of Psi Chapter, Beta Phi was established at Tulane University. The desirability of Tulane as a place for a Chapter had been agreed upon at the Asheville Grand Chapter, although a petition was not then pending. The nucleus of Tulane University was the Medical College of Louisiana, established at New Orleans in 1834, and expanded into the University of Louisiana in 1856. In 1882 Paul Tulane, a former resident of New Orleans, turned over his real estate in that city to seventeen administrators, named by him for the purpose of aiding the higher education of the white youth of Louisiana. Subsequent gifts made the total value of his benefactions over a million dollars. By special act of the legislature, in 1884, the affairs of the University of Louisiana were turned over to this Board of Administrators, and the name was changed to Tulane University.

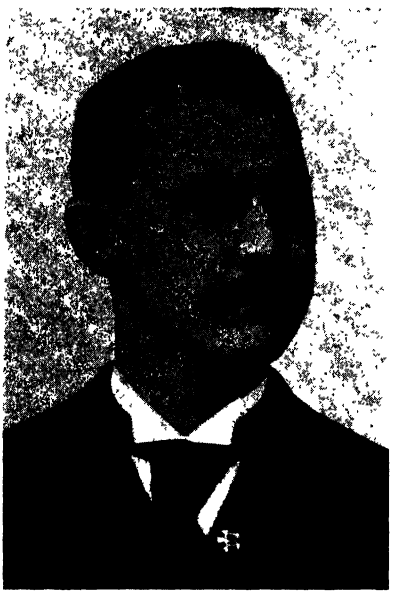
Kappa Alpha (S) and Sigma Chi established Chapters at the University of Louisiana in 1882. Sigma Chi survived only one year, but re-established at Tulane in 1886. Kappa Alpha continued its existence after the Tulane merger. Alpha Tau Omega entered in 1887, making three fraternities existing when Sigma Nu entered in 1888.

In the fall of 1888 Isadore Dyer, of Beta Chapter, University of Virginia, entered the medical department of Tulane University, rooming in the same house with Amos Kent Amaker, of Phi Chapter, Louisiana State University. They conceived the idea of establishing Sigma Nu at Tulane. Dyer corresponded with Regent Langton concerning the matter, obtaining his approval. Abram F. Barrow, Henry S. Cocram and Alanson G. Pearce, all of Phi, were drawn into the movement to petition for a charter. Favorable action by the High Council was quickly obtained, and on December 9, 1888, these five affiliates organized themselves into Beta Phi Chapter of Sigma Nu, the designation embracing the Greek letters of the two Chapters from which the affiliates came. Although these affiliates from Phi assisted in the organization, Dyer was the real founder of Beta Phi, and became the first Commander of the Chapter.

Several novitiates attending the medical and law departments were taken in during the inaugural year. The academic department at that time was a small contingent to the University, separated in its interests. It soon became evident that Beta Phi was to parallel the experience of Beta at the University of Virginia, drawing its membership from the professional schools, and depending largely upon affiliates who failed to develop homogeneity of Chapter spirit. Of the first twenty names on the roll of Beta Phi but eight were initiates of that Chapter.

Five of these were initiated by Dyer the first year, the other three having been taken in during the second year. Five new affiliates were recorded in 1890, but no further initiations were made, and in that year Beta Phi became dormant.

The Chapter was revived in 1895, mainly through the efforts of Henry M. Furman, one of seven members of Phi Chapter, then attending Tulane, who enrolled as affiliates of Beta Phi. Seven initiates were recorded that year, and the impetus from Furman's efforts sustained the Chapter for three years. In 1898 all the members remaining in Beta Phi Chapter enlisted for service in the Spanish-American war, and again the Chapter became dormant. It was the only Chapter lost by the Fraternity as a result of that call to arms. Beta Phi Chapter remained inactive for two years, and in 1900 the Grand Chapter withdrew the charter.



ISADORE DYER, BETA-BETA PHI
Initiate of the University of Virginia Chapter and founder of Beta Phi at Tulane, whose activities in the State Associations of Louisiana and Texas marked the beginning of extensive service in the affairs of the Fraternity nationally.

At the time of the founding of Beta Phi Chapter, the influence of Isadore Dyer in the Fraternity had become widely manifest. His initiation at the University of Virginia the previous year was the principal development supporting the revival of Beta Chapter. Largely through his activity, the Texas Alumni Association had been organized, saving Upsilon at the University of Texas from disaster. During this first year of his membership in Sigma Nu, Dyer contributed *Delta* articles which broadcast his enthusiasm and influence, his argument favoring the establishment of a Chapter at Yale University having inspired the idea which resulted in the formation of Beta Alpha Chapter two months after Beta Phi was founded. Dyer had been graduated from Yale in 1887 prior to his initiation at the University of Virginia, where he attended lectures during the year 1887-88. The peculiar workings of the system of secret societies at Yale were well known to Dyer, but conditions which restrained other general fraternities from entering did not appear to him as forbidding.

The system at Yale, dominated by class societies, began in 1832 with the founding of *Skull and Bones* by fifteen members of the class of 1833. The membership of this society was limited to that number of seniors each year, selected from the most prominent men of the retiring junior class. *Scroll and Key* was organized at Yale in 1841 with similar aims, and since has conformed in a general way to the designs of the original senior society. These two organizations virtually controlled the situation at Yale when Sigma Nu entered in

1889. *Wolf's Head*, founded in 1884, followed the course of the other senior societies, but had not become as firmly fixed in tradition at the time the Sigma Nu Chapter was founded.

Alpha Delta Phi, entering Yale in 1836, was the first general fraternity to establish a Chapter there, originally having functioned as a junior society. Psi Upsilon entered as a junior society in 1839. In 1844 Delta Kappa Epsilon was founded at Yale by students who had expected to be invited into one of the other societies, its membership also being confined to the junior class. These three junior class societies, each composed of from forty to sixty members, became recognized as preparatory organizations from which the more limited senior societies selected members. Alpha Delta Phi, after a prosperous career as a junior society, extended its membership to other classes, creating such prejudice against the action that its members were barred from admission to the senior societies, and Alpha Delta Phi gave up its fight for existence in 1873. In 1888 it was again revived as a junior society in good favor with the domineering senior societies.

The experience of Alpha Delta Phi was cited as cause why Sigma Nu could not succeed as a general fraternity at Yale. The argument was offset slightly by the fact that, in 1875, Phi Gamma Delta had established itself as a University fraternity without limitations as to classes or departments, and had survived prejudice up to the time Sigma Nu entered. It was pointed out by members of Sigma Nu opposing a Chapter at Yale that the valedictorian of the Yale class of 1881 held membership in both Phi Gamma Delta and Delta Kappa Epsilon, and that such dual membership would be intolerable in Sigma Nu, which demanded a member's undivided loyalty. In the Sheffield Scientific School, Delta Psi, Chi Phi, Theta Psi and Theta Delta Chi were prospering, but they did not conflict with the junior and senior societies, whose members were taken only from the academic department. For the same reason Phi Delta Phi, successful in the law department, was not affected. This complicated system naturally caused some apprehension as to the attitude that should control Sigma Nu, and the question "Shall We Enter Yale?" was argued pro and con in *The Delta* during the year 1888.

It remained for a member of old Lambda Chapter to take the deciding action. In the fall of 1888 Antione J. Ferrandini, of Lambda, entered the law department of Yale. He carried with him that indomitable missionary spirit of the Washington and Lee Chapter, and at once set himself to the task of establishing a Chapter of Sigma Nu at Yale. He received the sanction of the High Council, although with serious misgivings concerning the venture. His first convert was Willoughby M. Babcock, whom he initiated in January, 1889. Babcock had received his A. B. degree at Yale in 1887. He ranked among the first twelve in a class of one hundred and fifty during the four-year course, took "high oration" in his junior year, with Phi Beta Kappa honors, and received honorable mention in examinations at the end of his first year in the law department. He was a senior law student when initiated into Sigma Nu. Four others were selected to join Ferrandini and Babcock as the charter members who

organized Beta Alpha Chapter on February 8, 1889. The others were William A. P. Andrews, of the medical department; William D. Shupe, a senior in law; John A. L. Campbell, a graduate of Drake University, who was in the junior law class; and Porter B. Godard, a senior in the academic department, who made the honor roll at graduation, the next year returning for his law degree.

Babcock was elected Commander of the new Chapter, which ran *sub rosa* the first month while the members were completing their organization and awaiting receipt of badges to display upon "coming out". A meeting place was rented for one evening a week, and the membership was more than doubled before commencement time. The first initiate after the organization of Beta Alpha was Stephen L. Dowes, a junior law student, who had spent three years at Princeton University. Three sophomores in the academic department were included in the first group of initiates: Theodore N. Lilligore, Lewis T. Knox and Leonard E. Wales. Robert C. Morris, a junior in the law department, and Ernest L. Selden, a junior academic student, were other conspicuous initiates of the first year. John A. L. Campbell wrote the early Beta Alpha Chapter letters in *The Delta*, and great enthusiasm was evidenced over their initial successes.



ANTIONE J. FERRANDINI,
LAMBDA-BETA ALPHA
Member of the Washington and Lee Chapter who founded Beta Alpha Chapter at Yale.

Knox succeeded Babcock as Commander for the year 1889-90, ten members returning to Yale that fall. The opening banquet was held on November 7th, with Selden and Campbell the principal orators. Porter Godard and Robert C. Morris wrote the chapter letters during the year, which told of the plans for building a chapter house at Yale on a site which had been selected. Chapter rooms were furnished more completely, and a library was started. Isadore Dyer, Beta-Beta Phi, was studying medicine in New York City that year, and frequently visited Beta Alpha, instilling into the members his stimulating enthusiasm. Dyer attended all the initiations, and on one occasion his medical skill served to avoid a tragedy, when too much phosphorus had been used in a "Chamber of Horrors" which was being revealed to a pair of novitiates. Dyer's brother, Joseph O. Dyer, of the law department, formerly a student at Halle and Heidelberg, was one of the initiates of that year. Alfred C. Thompson, Academic, '92; Malcolm C. MacLear, Academic, '91; and Harry J. Bardwell, a senior in the academic department, were other notable additions during the fall term of 1889. Bardwell was financial editor of the Yale *News*, and in later years was the most persistently active alumnus

of Beta Alpha interested in the affairs of the general Fraternity. MacLear became financial editor of the Yale *Courant*. Of several initiates taken in during the last half of the year, George S. Walton and James S. Dwight, also academic students, were the most active in behalf of the Beta Alpha Chapter.

With such success in the academic department affronting Yale fraternity traditions, the junior societies took cognizance of the situation, inaugurating an



BETA ALPHA CHAPTER, YALE UNIVERSITY, 1889
Left to right, standing—L. T. Knox, L. E. Wales, T. N. Lilligore, A. C. Thompson, D. M. Hinckley; seated—S. Davis, R. C. Morris, S. L. Dowes, E. L. Selden, A. J. Ferrandini, W. A. P. Andrews, J. A. L. Campbell, P. B. Godard, F. H. Williams.

offensive in the fall of 1890. They pledged indiscriminately in the freshman class, holding out promises of initiation into the junior societies, and thus by pledging many more than could be accommodated, they hoped to embarrass Sigma Nu. Phi Gamma Delta, the other University fraternity, did not then initiate freshmen. There were about two hundred and fifty students in the academic department at that time. Although Beta Alpha was handicapped in pledging desirable freshmen of the 1894 class, the other classes offered abundant fraternity material, and a total of eleven new members were taken in during the year 1890-91.

Insidious tactics followed this open movement to embarrass Sigma Nu. In December, 1890, MacLear wrote Grand Recorder Harrington for advice concerning one of the members of Beta Alpha, who requested release from his vows in order that he might join one of the other fraternities. The fellow was the son of a multimillionaire, who became a United States Senator. He turned out to be of undesirable moral character, made conspicuous by his extravagant use of money. The Chapter did not expel him because they hoped to prevent his joining another fraternity at Yale, which he contemplated doing. Harrington

informed MacLear that the junior fraternities would not hesitate to take the man anyway, and advised expulsion. The man was expelled, and was afterwards enrolled as a member of another fraternity at Yale.

The same surreptitious influences were working upon other members of the Chapter, but the fact did not become apparent until the next year. The 1891-92 Commander, a freshman when taken into the Chapter, became ambitious to make one of the junior fraternities that year, and his influence supported the forces which were working to drive Sigma Nu out of the Yale academic department. Others were beguiled with the idea of winning membership in the junior societies, whose decree prohibited admission of those belonging to University fraternities. Thus Beta Alpha became disrupted by a disloyal element during the year 1891-92. There were still faithfuls in the Chapter, two splendid fellows having been initiated in November, 1891, and two more new members having been added to the roll on March 9, 1892. Disbanding of the Chapter had been discussed, the situation having become discouraging due to lack of harmony. But the loyal members did not know that their Commander had on February 24th written to Grand Recorder Harrington that "Beta Alpha is no more", and that disaffection had caused them to decide to terminate the Chapter's existence. This letter was held up pending definite action by the Chapter, but was sent to Harrington in March with a final notice of the Chapter's decision to disband, the charter and chapter records following. Disaffection had by that time become convincing, and it was alleged that the action was by unanimous vote. Care was taken by the Commander to explain that, inasmuch as Sigma Nu no longer existed at Yale, the members would feel free to join other fraternities there. The treacherous Commander won membership in one of the fraternities, and was expelled from Sigma Nu. Others who had counted upon invitations from the prospective fraternities were disappointed. Undoubtedly there were members moved by no other motives than by reasonable conclusions that the situation was hopeless. But the sudden turn from really phenomenal success was obviously due to scuttling methods.

During the spectacular career of Beta Alpha, some loyal enthusiasts were added to the roll of Sigma Nu. Willoughby Babcock, residing in Minneapolis, served long and faithfully in supporting the Fraternity's interests at the University of Minnesota. Porter Godard remained ever loyal as a consistent patron of the Kansas City Alumni Chapter. John A. L. Campbell brought honor upon Sigma Nu in the legal profession in New York City, where he was always counted as a dependable member of the Alumni Chapter. All these men were charter members of Beta Alpha. Harry J. Bardwell manifested his interest in the defunct Yale Chapter at several Grand Chapters. Malcolm MacLear was an enthusiastic member of the New York Alumni Chapter during a period when that organization participated in early extension activities in the East. The leading alumnus in direct contact with the Collegiate Chapter while it existed was Lewis T. Knox, second Commander of Beta Alpha. Knox, who resided in New York City, was at one time a Grand Chapter delegate from the New York Alumni Chapter, and became a Division Chief. During the active existence of Beta Alpha following his graduation from Yale, Knox returned

frequently, and was considered the Chapter's most faithful alumnus. To him the outcome was a grievous blow.

Although it ended in disaster, the establishment of the Yale Chapter was of vital significance in the development of the Fraternity. It demonstrated that courage is a force as strong as prestige with men of faith and zeal. Sigma Nu was virtually unknown in the East at that time, Pi Chapter at Lehigh being the only other Chapter in that section, and with Nu Chapter at the University of Kansas and Chi at Cornell College, Iowa, constituted the northern collegiate representation of Sigma Nu. The remarkable success at the beginning of Beta Alpha instilled confidence into those who were urging that Sigma Nu adopt an aggressive policy of extension. The collapse of the venture sustained the arguments of the same forces that Sigma Nu should expand not first in the bulwarks of the strongly established Eastern fraternities, but by pioneering in the promising Western field. Sigma Nu had no reason to anticipate permanent success of so daring a venture attempted at that time of its immature development. Alpha Delta Phi with its strong Eastern influence, with priority of entrance at Yale, and with a promise of $100,000 for a chapter house if it would survive the decree of the upperclass societies, failed to hold its early vantage position, and yielded to the demands of the upperclass organizations.

The experience of Sigma Nu at Yale was not a fair demonstration of what might have resulted from sane Eastern extension. But it was sufficient to retard the movement, and it turned Sigma Nu from premature invasion of the East to its logical sphere of development in the direction of the setting sun.

CHAPTER XVIII

The Road to Destiny

THE year 1889 was marked by failure so far as permanent extension was concerned. The founding of the Chapter at Yale was followed by the establishment of a Chapter at the University of the South, which paralleled in duration the limited existence of Beta Alpha. The Grand Chapter at Asheville in August, 1888, authorized dispensations to certain alumni members preliminary to the establishment of Chapters at Columbia College, in New York City, and at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. The dispensation for the Chapter at Columbia College was given to Dallas Flannagan, Alpha, and William G. Somerville, Theta, who were then attending that institution. Three other members of Sigma Nu were known to be in Columbia at that time. With five affiliates to start with, it was taken for granted that the dispensation would be used, and the name of Omega Chapter was added to the roll. No initiations were made, and Omega Chapter never really functioned. The only evidence of plans on the part of the alumni then attending Columbia College is a record in the Columbia "Blue Book" showing a "Sigma Nu Plot", so designated, a lot on West One Hundred and Fourteenth Street near Riverside Drive. The next year after the dispensation for Omega Chapter was granted, Columbia College was moved from Forty-second Street to the Morningside Heights location. Several of the established fraternities then became dormant. Whatever plans had been made for Omega Chapter were dropped because of unsettled conditions.

The dispensation authorizing a Chapter at the University of the South was not used until in the spring of 1889. The University of the South was chartered in 1858, but the Civil War delayed its opening and swept away all its endowment except 10,000 acres of land on a mountain near Sewanee, Tennessee. Upon this site the University was opened in 1868, under the control of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Alpha Tau Omega placed a Chapter at Sewanee in 1877, followed by Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1881, Kappa Sigma in 1882, and Phi Delta Theta, Delta Tau Delta and Kappa Alpha (S) in 1883.

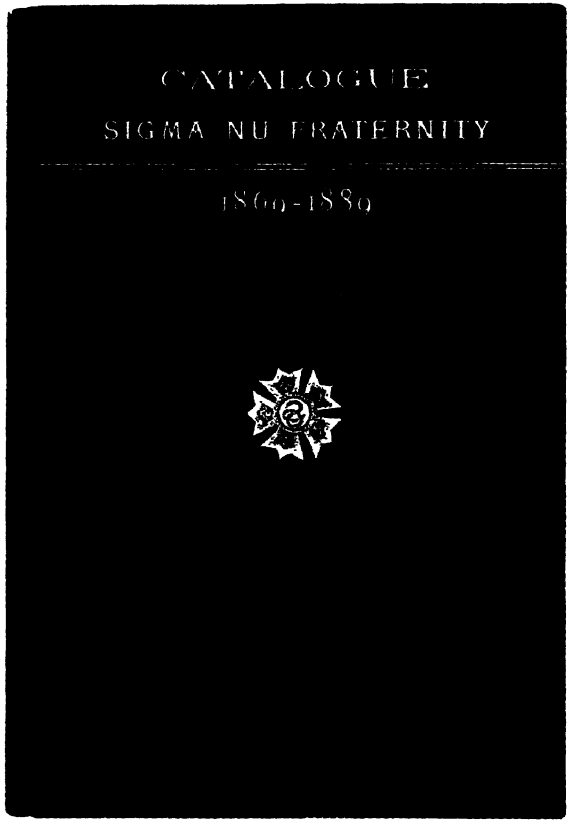
Harvey McCutcheon, of Omicron Chapter, Bethel College, entered the University of the South in August, 1888. The scholastic year of the University was divided into two terms of twenty weeks each, beginning in March and August, with the vacation period during the months of January and February. McCutcheon made first use of his dispensation in June, 1889, when he initiated Richard W. Courts, of Clarksville, Tennessee. During the next two months four others were initiated, and in August, 1889, Beta Omicron was established with six charter members. Its designation was given in compliment to Omicron Chapter, where Harvey McCutcheon had been initiated. The charter member roll included Frank A. Ramsey, William B. Lowe, and Rufus E. Fort.

Harvey McCutcheon was a hard-working enthusiast, and at once began to plan for a chapter house. All the other fraternities were in homes owned or rented, and the disadvantage without a house at Sewanee was greater than at most places at that time. During its first year the Chapter used two adjoining rooms in Medical Hall, which the members furnished comfortably. Charles C. Loomis, Joseph C. Fargo and James C. Watson, the first initiates of Beta Omicron, were taken in during the fall of 1889. Only four of the members returned at the beginning of the new scholastic year in March, 1890. Five initiates were added and a member from Omicron affiliated, making a Chapter of ten during that year. A chapter lodge was rented, and when McCutcheon was graduated that year the group was well organized and was rated very high upon the campus. The size and standing of the Chapter was maintained until during the term beginning in March, 1892, when withdrawals from the University necessitated the giving up of the chapter lodge. Six members remained at the opening of the fall term of 1892, but without a house they found it impossible to get desirable pledges. Arrangements were made to secure rooms in the Walsh Memorial Building the next year. However, only two members returned at the opening of the first term in 1893, and one of them remained but a short time. The sole survivor, William Whittaker, remained throughout the year, but made no attempt to revive Beta Omicron, which he claimed could not succeed without a chapter house.

The most notable achievement during the year 1889 was not in the field of extension. The publication that year of the first catalogue of the Fraternity was an accomplishment not equaled in importance since the founding of *The Delta*. The first catalogue effort was started before *The Delta* was conceived, Eugene Crowdus having undertaken the work while he was Commander of Alpha Chapter. John Alexander Howard continued the effort during the years of his official activity, but failed to consummate the undertaking. Grant Harrington assumed the task when he was appointed Bennett's Assistant Grand Recorder in 1886, and for three years he persisted in the determination to give the Fraternity a catalogue. The completed work was a highly creditable volume of one hundred and sixty pages, prefaced by the first comprehensive sketch of the Fraternity's history ever prepared. This valuable contribution embraced the vital information and precious traditions which Harrington had gathered during his visit to the birthplace of Sigma Nu, and this sketch is the foundation upon which all later historical effort has been based.

At the time Harrington began his catalogue work, the only printed matter concerning the Fraternity consisted of the first three volumes of *The Delta*. The entire material had to be collected by correspondence with the members since chapter records, where not lost, were very meager in details. In many cases members were traced through friends or relatives, and in some instances municipal officials and postmasters were appealed to for assistance.

The body of the first catalogue consisted of an arrangement by Chapters, a historical sketch of each Chapter preceding its roll of members. With each name given in full were the address, occupation, college honors held, degrees



8. *Elliott H. Burwell. West River, Md.
Civil engineer, graduated class 1870, Assistant Professor V M I., '71 and '72

9. John S. Myrick. Austin, Texas.
Bank cashier, graduated fifth class, '71, with rank of Captain, was elected Professor in the Texas Military Institute in 1873, has been City Treasurer of Austin for a number of years, married Miss Josephine Johnson, of Austin, Texas, 1874

10. Lafayette P. Rhodes Lynchburg, Va.
Civil Engineer, graduated class 1870, was City Engineer of Lynchburg, Va.

11. Ogle Taylor. Common, King George Co., Va.
Farmer, graduated class 1870.

12. H T Ward Warsaw, Va (?)

13 Edward Robert Arthur Columbia, S. C.
Lawyer, brother to 39, drew the first constitution for the fraternity, was elected Regent at the Lexington convention, graduated 1870, then entered law department University South Carolina, receiving degree L B, 1871, and was valedictorian was elected Clerk Circuit Court Richland County, South Carolina, non-commissioned officer Richland Rifle Company; Lieutenant Richland Rifle Company Adjutant Palmetto Regiment, rank of Captain, Past District Deputy Grand Master for Fifth Masonic Circuit South Carolina, Past Eminent Commander Columbia Commandery, No 2; Past Thrice Illustrious Master Union Council, No 5, Past Master Richland Lodge, No 39, A F and A M

14 Louis Neville Buck Leadville, Col (?)
Lawyer graduated first class, 1870, with rank of Second Lieutenant Assistant Professor V M I 1870-72, received degree B S 1872.

15 John C Carmichael. Lexington, Va.
Civil Engineer, graduated 1870 rank of Fourth Captain, Assistant Professor V M I 1870-71 married 1871, Miss Jennie Tucker, daughter of Hon John Randolph Tucker, of Lexington, Va, now on a survey for the United States Government in Arizona.

16 *W W Davidson

17 J H Franklin Owensville, Md
Graduated class 1871

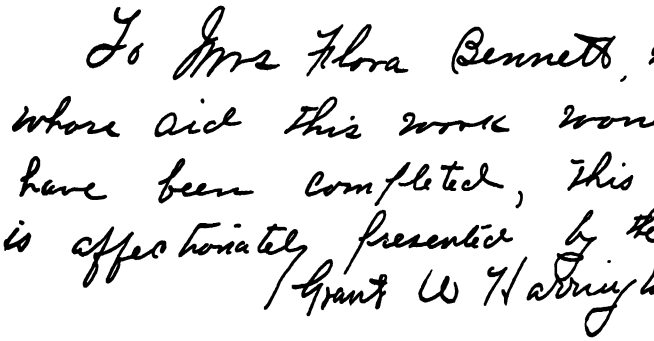
18 J Edwin Gott West River, Md

19 *John W Hopson Memphis, Tenn
Graduated class 1870, married Miss Topp, of Memphis died Dec 31, '87

20 *Ford Hopson Memphis, Tenn
Civil Engineer graduated class 1870, died 1878 of yellow fever, brother to 19

THE FIRST SIGMA NU CATALOGUE
Front cover and page of first catalogue, showing arrangement of membership roll by Chapters.

conferred, official connection with the Fraternity, and other honors achieved so far as could be ascertained. The time, place and cause of death were recorded after the names of deceased members where this information was obtainable. A residence directory with the names and business of the members was arranged alphabetically and geographically. The first catalogue showed a membership of eight hundred and fifty. The task of circularizing and following up requests for information meant the mailing of several thousand communications. Harrington was a student in the University during all this period of catalogue preparation, working without clerk hire and without compensation. The possibility of such labor under the circumstances would be unbelievable, as it would have been hopeless had not Harrington had the help of Rawson Bennett's mother, that sainted devotee of Sigma Nu, who sent out hundreds of letters in the preparation of this first catalogue. In an autographed volume presented to this beloved Sigma Nu patroness, Harrington wrote the following tribute, which is produced facsimile:



In concluding his comment in the preface of the catalogue, Harrington wrote:

"The labor has been long, and at times decidedly tiresome, but the feeling that the good to be gained by such a work would amply repay any outlay of time, patience and money, has strengthened us to persist in our seemingly endless task, and helped us to bring it to a successful completion."

Harrington received his law degree at the University of Kansas in June, 1889. Overworked by the manifold demands of his scholastic and fraternity responsibilities, Harrington's health gave way after graduation and he returned to his home in Baker, Kansas, much distressed over his reduced energies. He wrote Bennett of his incapacitated condition and informed him that there were not adequate facilities in Baker for printing *The Delta*. Bennett offered to take over the work of getting the printing done at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he was then employed, and the first three numbers of Volume VII were published there. In the spring of 1890, having recovered his health, Harrington formed a law partnership at Hiawatha, Kansas, where he resided during the remainder of the period of his official connection with the Fraternity, and where the subsequent issues of *The Delta* under his editorship were printed.



GRANT W. HARRINGTON, NU

Charter member of the University of Kansas Chapter. Editor of *The Delta*, 1886-1894. Grand Recorder, 1888-1894. Editor of the First and Second Catalogues of Sigma Nu. For eight years he carried almost full responsibility for administrative conduct of the Fraternity. Upon his policies the foundation of Sigma Nu's national development was constructed.

In September, 1890, fire destroyed the building in which Harrington's law offices were located, burning practically all the records of the Fraternity then in the possession of the Grand Recorder. Included in this loss were the early records and papers of Alpha Chapter, the historical collections gathered by Harrington, and precious documents turned over to him by John Alexander Howard, who had spent much effort in historical research. At a later date another fire destroyed what valuable papers and early records Howard had retained in his possession.

During the two years between the Fourth and Fifth Grand Chapters two vacancies in the offices of Division Chiefs were filled by the High Council. Wade Hampton Ellis, of Lambda, was named Chief of the First Division to succeed Walter Conant, who had moved out of that Division. Sidney E. Bradshaw, Omicron. was selected Third Division Chief when Ossian Crockett was compelled to give up the work. The two-year period following the Asheville Grand Chapter was almost devoid of progressive activity on the part of the High Council. The variance in views between Regent Langton and Grand Recorder Harrington, in the matter of extension, virtually precluded entrance into the aggressive colleges of the Middle West, which Harrington believed were the logical channels through which Sigma Nu might expand into a truly national organization. During these years of retarded growth Harrington pursued a campaign of enlightenment, determined to force the issue to a satisfactory settlement at the Fifth Grand Chapter. In the issue of *The Delta* dated June, 1889, he reproduced a circular previously sent to the Chapters and to the officers of the Fraternity. This issue of *The Delta* was mailed to every member of the Fraternity whose address was known, and in this way Harrington broadcast his argument favoring a vigorous policy of expansion. The following editorial comment preceded the reproduction of the circular:



UNOFFICIAL COAT OF ARMS
Used in *The Delta* during Harrington's editorship, and thereafter until the adoption of an official coat of arms.

"As this issue of *The Delta* will reach nearly every member of the Fraternity, it seems to be a good time to call attention to the subject of extension. So far we have drifted along without any definite notion as to where we were going, and many of our now most flourishing Chapters were organized more through accident than design. The unparalleled activity of rival fraternities now makes it imperative that we adopt some policy and steadily pursue it, or drop behind in the race. Such a policy, of course, cannot be adopted before the next convention, but in the meantime we can determine what fields are still open for us, and gain new footholds."

In a survey of the Fraternity's growth and prospects, Harrington treated the subject by divisions. He declared that there were no colleges outside those already entered in the First Division where conditions were inviting. This Division included the states of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. In the Second Division, comprising the states of Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana, it was pointed out that nearly one-half of the Fraternity's membership was located. Aid through alumni associations was urged for the Chapters in this Division, but the need for extension in that section was not discussed. The Third Division, composed of the states of Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan, "covers a boundless field into which we have scarcely penetrated", Harrington declared. The Kentucky Chapters at Central and Bethel and the Chapter at Vanderbilt were the only ones that then had been established in this territory.

"In the remaining four states across the Ohio River we have done nothing," Harrington pointed out. "The directory shows our membership in these states to be as follows: Illinois, seven; Ohio, five; Indiana, one; Michigan, none. And this, too, in the face of the fact that these four states are among the foremost states in the Union in wealth, intelligence and population. Nothing shows the one-sidedness and sectional aspect of our Fraternity stronger than this. In these four states there are upwards of twenty-five colleges and universities where some of our rivals have Chapters. At least half of these institutions are desirable places that we should enter."

The Fourth Division, then comprising all the territory west of the Mississippi and including the State of Wisconsin, "like the Third also opens up a boundless field", Harrington wrote, "but unlike the Third it is comparatively new, and so there is greater opportunity to extend". Concluding a survey of this section, he declared: "It is better for us to gain a foothold now than to have to fight for everything we get." Considering the Fifth Division, embracing the Middle Atlantic and New England States, Harrington asserted: "This has long been regarded as a territory in which the Western and Southern Greek-letter fraternities could not flourish." His opinion concerning the prospect in that direction was that "schools in this Division outside the four or five great institutions are small, as a rule, and do not present the possibilities of the newer colleges".

Harrington threw down the gauntlet to Langton in his report to the Fifth Grand Chapter, wherein his arguments for Western extension were boldly stated in the following conclusion:

"The boys who are filling our small Western colleges today will shape the policy of the nation twenty-five years from now, so it is the height of folly to sit back and quibble about low-grade schools and small endowments. The fraternity that is wise enough to enter this promised land and to fill the chief institutions with its Chapters is the fraternity that will lay future claims to preeminence. Sectional fraternities must give way to national fraternities. As a Southern Fraternity, Sigma Nu cannot compete successfully with her rivals in the Mississippi Valley. She must either adopt a liberal and aggressive policy of

Western expansion, or abandon what she has already gained. The issue must be met now, and decided once for all."

In *The Delta*, June, 1890, Harrington wrote editorially:

"With the settling of points of policy to be made at Chattanooga, Sigma Nu should enter upon another period of rapid extension. Let it be made wisely, seizing every available point, but remembering that the road to triumph lies through the West to the East."

The Fifth Grand Chapter met at the Lookout Inn, Chattanooga, Tennessee, August 12-14, 1890. For the first time every member of the High Council was



LOOKOUT INN

Meeting place of the Fifth Grand Chapter, Chattanooga, Tenn., 1890. Destroyed by fire in 1909.

present. Regent Langton, Vice Regent Murphey, John Alexander Howard, Kappa, and Louis L. Dean, Theta, registered for the fourth time. Bennett and Harrington were present for the third time. Seventeen Chapters were represented, including the Birmingham Alumni Chapter, which for the third successive Grand Chapter had two delegates present. Theta Chapter, University of Alabama, sent three delegates, seven members of Theta present making a new record for chapter representation. Kappa at North Georgia College had three delegates present, a fourth member of that Chapter, James A. Wardlaw, having been principally in charge of convention arrangements. All four Georgia Chapters joined to make collegiate representation from that State complete for the first time. Pi Chapter at Lehigh sent two of its active members from that distant point. Composed of such representative delegates, the Fifth Grand Chapter was a success from every standpoint.

The plan of the previous convention to make this Grand Chapter a Constitutional Convention was not fully carried out. Thomas A. Owen, Theta alumnus, worked with Bennett on the Constitution Committee, but their work was not completed, and they were made members of a standing committee to continue the work. The most important innovation of the Fifth Grand Chapter

was the incorporation of the editorship of *The Delta* with the functions of the Grand Recorder's Office, a joint operation previously carried on by Harrington, but not officially connected by law. An annual salary of $300 was voted for the Grand Recorder, the work of this office, with *The Delta* management, having become a grievous imposition without some compensation.

The principal business of the Chattanooga Grand Chapter was in the matter of extension, the issue having arisen three times during the session, discussion on the subject consuming much of the time during the three-day meeting.



BIXBY WILLIS, LAMBDA
GRAND TREASURER, 1890-92
Loyal alumnus of the Washington and Lee Chapter, prominent in affairs of the General Fraternity for a quarter of a century.



JAMES A. WARDLAW, KAPPA
General arrangements of the Fifth Grand Chapter were in charge of this enthusiastic alumnus of the North Georgia Chapter, who had installed the revived Chapter at the University of Georgia in 1884.

The progressives were in full control, but those opposing their views did not yield until twice decisively out-voted. The issue first arose in the discussion of a resolution proposed by Harrington, the opening encounter appearing in the report of proceedings as follows:

"Brother Harrington moved that Bro. Walter J. Sears, of Nu, who would enter the State University of Ohio the coming year, be granted a dispensation allowing him to initiate students of that Institution into the Sigma Nu Fraternity, observing all constitutional requirements as to qualifications; and that in case five initiates could be secured, the incoming High Council be instructed to furnish them a charter; otherwise the initiates to be enrolled as members of Nu Chapter. Brothers Harrington and Bennett spoke in favor of the motion.

"The Regent called Brother Owen to the chair, and then spoke briefly against the plan of granting dispensations. Brother Howard also opposed the motion."

The resolution was adopted by a vote of forty to eight. Regent Langton then explained that his opposition was registered not against the institution, but in protest to this method of granting charters. Harrington had favored this plan as the safest way to avoid mishap. building up the petitioning group by initiations that would bind the individuals as Brothers, safeguarding against seduction by rivals who used such methods at that time to break up incipient organizations.

Thomas M. Owen, Theta, presented in behalf of the Birmingham Alumni Chapter a petition from five students of Howard College, East Lake, Alabama. Harrington introduced a resolution providing for the granting of this petition, and instructing the Birmingham Alumni Chapter to revive Iota Chapter therewith. A lengthy discussion followed on the proposal, and the matter was unsettled at the time of adjournment for the day. The argument was continued the next day, resulting in the granting of the petition by a vote of thirty-five to eighteen. This seemed to end the opposition, a third resolution offered by Harrington in the matter of extension receiving unanimous approval. Thus was decided the contest which Harrington had insisted must be settled at Chattanooga.

Although the third term of Regent Langton ended in victory for those who had opposed his extreme conservatism, he retained the admiration and affection of the members who did not share his views on extension. While the years of his control of the situation seemed to be time lost in the growth of the Fraternity, it may be regarded as a fortunate circumstance that Langton held Harrington in check until Harrington had been graduated and had more time to give to working out his progressive program, avoiding premature development of the policy which in due time proved so advantageous to Sigma Nu.

Having won the fight for the approval of their policy, the progressives took no chances on having an unfriendly High Council to block their program. They did not again make the mistake of selecting an absent nominee for Regent. Rawson Bennett was agreed upon as their candidate. The controversy over policy had been settled so decisively, when the time came for election of officers, that the issue was not involved, and Bennett was made Regent by acclamation. In voicing the sentiment of the delegates in this connection, Louis L. Dean, of Theta, presented a gavel to the new Regent, a description of which is contained in the following record of the incident made by Bennett several years later:

"When I was elected Regent at the Chattanooga, or Fifth Grand Chapter, on August 14, 1890, Brother Louis Lecil Dean, of Theta, presented to me this gavel. He accompanied the presentation, which he professed to make for another, with a long and dramatic narrative, relating how some distinguished Alabama soldier, probably Gen. Joseph Wheeler, had had his hat perforated in the battle of Chickamauga by a bullet which lodged in a tree behind him; how he had returned to the battlefield in after years, found the tree, cut off the limb containing this identical bullet, had the wood fashioned into this gavel, and

now wished to present it to the Grand Chapter and the Regent as a mark of his admiration for Sigma Nu.

"All this story, it may be remarked, was one of Brother Dean's characteristic jests, played with such excellent art that its subject, myself, was for the mo-



PERLEE RAWSON BENNETT, NU
Elected Regent of Sigma Nu in 1890, following a period of five years' service as Grand Recorder.

ment totally deluded, not having had much experience with battlefield relics and being too much occupied with other thoughts to reflect upon the natural growth of trees in the course of years. Therefore, I made a suitable reply, amid the concealed grins of the members of the Grand Chapter, and was stopped only just in time by those better posted from telling Dean's romance to reporters of Chattanooga newspapers.

"For the sake of the joke upon myself, I preserved the gavel as a personal memento of Brother Dean, especially since that loyal and whole-souled 'Sig', to

the sorrow of the Fraternity, was not long afterwards transferred to the Supreme or Omega Chapter, where the Sovereign Regent of the Universe presides. Considering that the use of the gavel in five Grand Chapters has made it a Fraternity, rather than a personal, possession, I have turned it over to the Fraternity as a memento of our lamented Brother Dean, to be preserved and used as may be expedient, and have written out this memorandum of its history for the information of future generations of Sigma Nus."



THE BENNETT GAVEL
Historic Relic presented to Rawson Bennett following his election to the regency at the Fifth Grand Chapter in 1890.

This relic, which has become known as "The Bennett Gavel", is greatly treasured by the Fraternity, having been used by Regent Bennett in adjourning this Fifth Grand Chapter, and in presiding over sessions of the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Tenth Grand Chapters.

Vice Regent Clarence Wainwright Murphey and Grand Recorder Grant Harrington were re-elected at the Fifth Grand Chapter. Bixby Willis, Lambda, was made Grand Treasurer. The office of Division Chief was changed in name to Division Inspector. The following Inspectors were named: I, Victor H. Boyden, Psi; II, Bell R. Webster, Phi; III, Harvey S. McCutcheon, Omicron-Beta Omicron; IV, Robert Lee McCulloch, Rho; V, Herman H. Davis, Pi; VI, John A. Howard, Kappa.

The new Sixth Division was created by taking Georgia and Florida from the Second Division. The Georgia Sigs had been aroused to renewed activity under the leadership of Joel Glover Jeffcoat, Xi, President of the Georgia Alumni Association. This devoted Sigma Nu, who was the sole representative of the Georgia Chapters at the Second Convention, instilled anew into the Chapters and alumni of that State the enthusiasm of his unfailing fraternity spirit, and to Joel Jeffcoat was greatly due the revival of interest which resulted in the full representation of the four Georgia Chapters at this Fifth Grand Chapter at Chattanooga.

These State Associations at that time were rendering valuable service to the Fraternity. The Texas Alumni Association, which was organized to save Upsilon Chapter at the University of Texas, continued its annual meetings at Austin, where old Alpha alumni, led by Eugene Crowdus, gathered yearly to renew associations. The Louisiana Alumni Association was the medium that sustained life at Phi and Beta Phi for several years. The Birmingham Alumni Chapter, exerting the influence of a state association, was the most energetic alumni body in the Fraternity. The members held stated meetings in their own club rooms, conducting them in the regular order of business provided for Collegiate Chapters. Theta alumni principally constituted this remarkable Chapter. The intensely partisan Sigma Nu spirit created at Tuscaloosa was no doubt responsible for the unusual interest maintained by Theta Alumni after leaving the University.

For several years after its revival from *sub rosa* existence, Theta Chapter battled Phi Delta Theta for honors at the University of Alabama with such zeal that their chapter spirit was made stronger, and chapter associations were made more intimate and lasting. The efforts of these rival fraternities to corral honor students and to out-man each other resulted in abnormally large Chapters. During the year 1885, Theta initiated thirty-nine new members. The roll of Theta totaled one hundred and twenty-three members in the first catalogue, more than one-seventh of the total names in the directory. One-sixth of the membership of the Fraternity was then resident in the State of Alabama. It was a peculiar circumstance that this militant body of alumni, eagerly desirous of organizing other Chapters in Alabama, was held in restraint by Regent Langton, who was chiefly responsible for the revival and consequent prosperity of Sigma Nu in that State. Delegates from Theta and from the Birmingham Alumni Chapter voted against Langton's views at Chattanooga, and when his hold on the situation was broken, Alabama was the first State to act under the new policy of extension.

Harrington's resolution supporting the Howard College petition, which was presented at Chattanooga by the Birmingham Alumni Chapter, proposed that this charter be considered a revival of Iota Chapter. Iota Chapter had originally existed at Howard College when that institution was located at Marion, Alabama. Howard College, named in honor of John Howard, noted English reformer, was opened in 1842 under the control of the Missionary Baptists of Alabama. In 1853 its endowment totaled $50,000, and a movement was in progress to double this amount when the buildings, library and equipment were burned in a fire that took the lives of two students, many others having been saved by the heroism of a negro janitor. With remarkable rapidity the College was rebuilt, and in 1880 the value of property and endowment amounted to over a quarter of a million dollars.

In 1856 Phi Gamma Delta established a Chapter at Howard College. Sigma Alpha Epsilon entered in 1870, Beta Theta Pi and Sigma Chi in 1872. Howard College was conducted under a military system, its president having been a cadet at Virginia Military Institute. Fraternities were forbidden by rule at Howard College, but Beta Theta Pi and Sigma Chi survived this injunction for

several years, operating prosperous *sub rosa* Chapters. During the year 1878-79 Robert E. Lee Hudson, Theta, entered Howard College, selecting a group of five students whom he pledged to join Sigma Nu. Hudson corresponded in the matter with Thomas W. Clark, founder of Theta, who was later elected Regent of the Fraternity. Clark was at that time president of the Alabama State Association which, under the old law, had the right to establish Chapters within its jurisdiction. Clark went to Marion, and on the night of June 15, 1879, immediately following the close of commencement exercises, initiated the five students selected by Hudson. By delaying the initiations until after the close of the College, the rule prohibiting fraternities was circumvented. The ceremony was held in a room at the old King Hotel in Marion.

The formation of the new Chapter was duly reported by Clark to Commander Wade, of Alpha, and in the order of establishment it was designated as Chapter IX, the Greek nomenclature not then being used. The five students



HOWARD COLLEGE
Reproduction from a wood-cut print on stationery used in correspondence of Iota Chapter, showing the original Howard College at Marion, Alabama, where Iota was first established.

initiated by Clark were Benjamin H. Abrams, William B. Reynolds, John B. Powell, Thomas J. Luckie and Luther L. Hill. Abrams was a born gentleman, highly respected by faculty and students. He was salutatorian of his senior class, and was adjutant of the Corps, with rank of captain. Reynolds, a lovable fellow who was a great favorite during the two years of Chapter association, succeeded Abrams as adjutant of the Corps and as the leader of the Chapter during the year 1880-81. Abrams and Reynolds were the only charter members who returned to Howard College in the fall after their initiation. Before matriculation they initiated James D. Dickson, who became one of the most enthusiastic members of the Fraternity of that period. Henry D. Lyman, Conrad W. Knight, Walter R. Fleming, Malvern N. Due and John R. Sampey were pledged during the first year, and were initiated after commencement in June, 1880. Sampey was the outstanding student in Howard College, becoming senior captain of the Corps, first honor man and valedictorian of his graduating class. Sampey became noted internationally as a Biblical scholar and as an

authority on Hebrew history. He became a leading member of the faculty of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky, said to be the largest institution of its kind in the world. He served in the national councils of Sigma Nu as Grand Chaplain.

Chapter IX, as Iota Chapter then was known, prospered for two years, enjoying intimate fraternity associations, although prohibited from functioning as an active organization. After commencement in June, 1881, four new members were admitted, making a total of fifteen enrolled during the two years of the Chapter's existence. In the meantime, rivalry among the fraternities caused the faculty to take cognizance of the situation, and prejudice fostered by the "barbs" made the position of the fraternities hazardous. This antagonism culminated in action by the Board of Trustees at a meeting in June, 1881, when the following order was decreed:

"Whereas, the influence of Secret Societies has proved, in the general experience of educational institutions, unfavorable to discipline and scholarship, and therefore to the welfare of colleges, and to the best interest of students, it is hereby ordered by the Board of Trustees of Howard College,

"That no student of this Institution who may, after the first of September, 1881, become a member of such secret Society or Fraternity, shall be eligible to the offices or honors of Howard College."

The success of Chapter IX had been built upon the records of honor men, and this decree took away one of the principal incentives of achievement, causing the Chapter to become dormant. The last initiate recorded, Sidney J. Catts, a freshman, won honors for Sigma Nu after the Chapter's dissolution, becoming president of the Philomathic Literary Society and editor of the Howard *Collegian*. He became governor of the State of Florida.

Beta Theta Pi had succumbed at Howard College before the antifraternity action in 1881, but Sigma Chi continued *sub rosa* operation for several years after this decree was imposed. This fact perturbed the unyielding Sigma Nu spirit of James D. Dickson, who returned to Marion in the spring of 1882 determined to resuscitate Chapter IX, but in this he was unsuccessful. Before the opening of the college year 1884-85 Charles W. Dickson, brother of James D. Dickson, was initiated for the purpose of reviving Sigma Nu at Howard College, but this move also failed. The next year William Lee Sampey, brother of John R. Sampey, was initiated with the idea of strengthening the prospect. These two double brothers of distinguished early initiates added more luster to the chapter roll. Charles Dickson won a scholarship medal and became adjutant of the Corps. William Sampey became senior captain and was first honor man and valedictorian of the class of 1885. Their prominence did not offset the prejudice against fraternities, however, and the hoped-for revival of Sigma Nu did not materialize. This unavailing effort was heralded in *The Delta* as a revival of Chapter IX, and it was at that time that the designation was changed to Iota Chapter.

Howard College was moved to East Lake, a suburb of Birmingham, Alabama, in 1887, liberal promises of land and cash having been made to induce the change in location. This move caused dissension among the supporters of the

College. The promised benefactions were not forthcoming at East Lake, and for several years the College was housed in temporary buildings known as "The Barn" and the "Mess Hall". During 1888-89 the enrollment was increased to one hundred and seventy students, and the next year over two hundred were in attendance. This evidence of progress caused the Birmingham Alumni Chapter to sponsor a petition from a group of honor men at the neighboring institution, resulting in the revival of Iota Chapter on October 15, 1890. Fourteen members were then initiated, among the number being the leaders winning scholarship and military honors. John D. Abernathy was senior captain, won first scholastic honor, and was valedictorian of his graduating class. John F. Bledsoe was at that time a lieutenant in the Corps, and was also junior orator that year. Robert W. Huey was business manager of the Howard *Collegian* and became first captain of the Corps. Thomas T. Huey also became a captain and was president of the junior class. John E. Harris captured oratorical honors for three years, beginning as sophomore medalist and ending as senior class orator. James R. Jarrell was a lieutenant in the Corps and was elected president of the Franklin Society in 1890. Marcellus McCreary served as valedictorian of Philomathic Society, salutatorian of his graduation class, business manager of the Howard *Collegian*, and won second honor in scholarship. John R. Martin was junior orator, Philomathic debater and a lieutenant in the Corps. Leonard L. Vaun was business manager of the *Collegian* in 1891.

Fourteen additions were enrolled during the second half of the year 1890-91, making a total chapter roll of twenty-eight that first year, comprising an array of honor men with all but one captain and with most of the literary society and class officers. This was accomplished in the face of the existing decree which denied college honors or military rank to members of a secret fraternity. Through the ingenuity of the leaders, *sub rosa* operation was carried on successfully, contributing an element of zest to the chapter life. The exactions of military regulation together with the antifraternity rule would have made chapter functioning impossible had it not been that year after year the leaders in all departments of college activity were on the secret roll of Iota Chapter. Meetings the first year were secretly held in one of the literary society halls, but the risk was so great that chapter business was more often transacted through inter-communication ingeniously planned. Pledging was a difficult process, since there was risk of revealing one's affiliation with the Fraternity by making a miscalculation as to the attitude of the prospect. The method of voting upon a proposed member was to write the name on a slip of paper which was placed in a book. The book was "loaned" by the Commander to each member, who returned it with a mark indicating favor or disapproval of the candidate.

It became generally known, after a time, that Sigma Nu was operating a *sub rosa* Chapter, but the identity of the membership was for several years kept secret. At one time student opposition became so insistent that the faculty took action, sending out a questionnaire to every student demanding a direct answer as to whether he was a member of a secret fraternity. Through the influence of the chapter members many non-fraternity men did not return the questionnaire, thus

rendering the result of little value. Prior to this disturbance meetings had been held in the old building known as "The Barn", but after the agitation of the issue it was considered too great a risk to meet on the campus. A rock quarry on Red Mountain was a favorite meeting place during early years, a mammoth bowl, accessible only through a narrow crevice in a cliff, making a secure and picturesque rendezvous. The old Morris Hotel was sometimes used for initiations and banquets.

In 1898 a profane, who was being tested out on his attitude toward joining a fraternity, proved treacherous, divulging to the faculty the names of members of



SECRET MEETING PLACE OF IOTA CHAPTER
Excavation in a stone quarry where *sub rosa* meetings of Iota Chapter were held.

Sigma Nu which he had craftily obtained. This resulted in the first open meeting of Iota Chapter held up to that time, the members of the Chapter in a body meeting the president of Howard College upon summons at his office. They were given the choice of returning their charter or of being expelled. Time was given to consult with their alumni in Birmingham. The charter was given up by the collegiate members to an alumnus to forward to the Grand Recorder. The charter was sent, but with the information that it was not surrendered, and that it was to be returned to the Birmingham alumnus who had sent it. Other initiates were taken in by the alumni, circumventing the pledge forced from the collegiate members, and the Chapter was thus perpetuated. Secrecy was so skilfully maintained thereafter that a local, which was organized with the intention of seeking the supposed dormant charter of Sigma Nu, solicited the president of the senior class and other honor men of Iota Chapter, not knowing that they were already members of Sigma Nu. Birmingham Alumni were advised to be on their guard, and when the would-be petitioners sought the assistance of Birmingham Sigma Nus they were summarily discouraged in their project.

A new president of Howard College was installed in 1902, bringing a reversal in attitude toward fraternities. The prospect was anticipated by action of the Board of Trustees in June, 1901, when the antifraternity rule was abolished. Thus Iota Chapter came from under the rose to pursue openly its interesting career, enriched by the history and traditions of twelve eventful years of *sub rosa* existence. The complete concord which developed between the faculty and the Chapter is evidenced by the fact that the College authorities rented the Chapter a house. When later this house was remodeled, the expense was shared by the College, and much of the unskilled labor was performed by the members of the Chapter, who hauled stone from the mountain which once was Iota's secret shrine.

Coincident with the revival of Iota Chapter in the fall of 1890, a third Alabama Chapter was chartered at the historic old college town of Auburn. Before the Civil War there flourished at Auburn the "Old East Alabama Male College", controlled by the southern Methodist Church. The little college did not prosper after the war, but its culture and traditions survived in the community. In 1872, when the legislature authorized the establishment of a College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, the offer of the site of the East Alabama Male College was accepted. In this historic setting, within the walls of the old college building, the first technical school in the South had its birth. The institution was chartered as the Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical College, but later became known as Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Throughout the South, and with affectionate regard from its students and alumni, the name of "Auburn" has become generally used.

Fraternities found an inviting field at Auburn, with the faculty friendly and an environment conducive to wholesome fraternity associations. Sigma Alpha Epsilon entered in 1878; Phi Delta Theta and Alpha Tau Omega in 1879; and Kappa Alpha (S) in 1883. All these fraternities were rivals of Theta at the University of Alabama, and for several years Theta alumni had been alert for an opportunity to start a Chapter at Auburn. The proposal was discussed informally at the Chattanooga Grand Chapter, but it was found that sufficient votes were not obtainable in favor of a dispensation. The request for a charter was delayed, with the understanding that the incoming High Council would act favorably upon a petition. Accordingly, Louis L. Dean and Junius P. Clayton, of Theta and the Birmingham Alumni Chapter, went to Auburn at the opening of the fall term of 1890, selected five prospects for a Chapter, and on September 18, 1890, vested them with the secret work of Sigma Nu. This was the method approved by the Fifth Grand Chapter in its dispensation granted to Walter J. Sears, of Nu, for initiating prospects for a Chapter at Ohio State University. Regent Bennett and Grand Recorder Harrington, both members of Nu Chapter, had sponsored this plan of procedure, and Dean believed that these officials would support his similar action at Auburn, where Bennett and Harrington had agreed that a Chapter should be established.

Louis Dean was a man of action, deeply devoted to Sigma Nu, as evidenced by his attendance at four of the first five Grand Chapters, his trip to the First Convention with Langton having been made three weeks after his initiation into

Theta Chapter. He had differed with Langton on extension, and had been vexed by Langton's opposition to entering Auburn. Dean had supported the Bennett-Harrington policy, and felt confident in anticipating their approval of his work at Auburn. A formal petition was prepared, bearing the names of the five students initiated and the endorsement of several members of the Birmingham Alumni Chapter. In forwarding the petition to the High Council through Harrington, Dean stated that he had visited Auburn and had organized a Chapter there. Bennett, as Regent, took exception to the procedure, but after delivering his opinion he did not vote against the petition, which was duly passed on October 15, 1890.



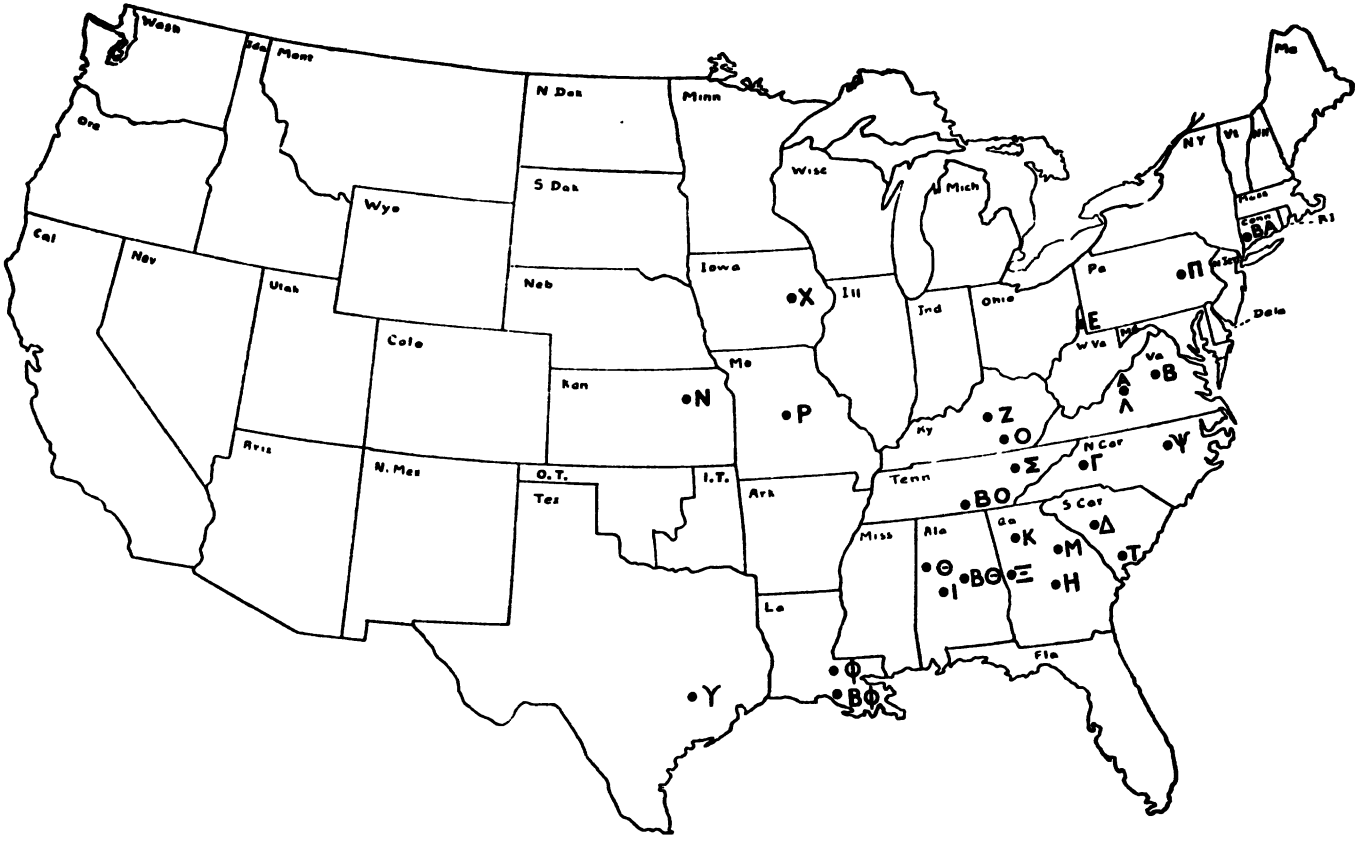
LOUIS L. DEAN, THETA
Prominent member of the University of Alabama Chapter, a delegate to the First Convention who attended four of the first five Grand Chapters. Donor of the famous Bennett Gavel at the Fifth Grand Chapter. Leading founder of Beta Theta Chapter at "Auburn".

Although Dean's action was irregular, it was not regarded as without justification. Harrington agreed with Dean that a Chapter at Auburn had been promised official sanction. Dean realized the necessity for action as soon as the College opened if the best type of students were to be secured for the foundation of the new Chapter. The five men he selected lived on neighboring plantations and were already bound together by ties of friendship. When the two-weeks' time limit of their petition expired on October 15, 1890, and no contrary votes were recorded, these five initiates automatically became the charter members of Beta Theta Chapter. They were Eugene Graves, Jesse L. Culver, Clifford Foy, Edwin McKay and Oscar B. Pruett. They were ready for action, and the next day they initiated James Dunlap and Charles J. Dunlap, brothers, from Huntsville, Alabama. During that term William Van Antwerp was taken in, these three initiates sharing the organization work of Beta Theta Chapter. Graves became president of the Websterian Literary Society and a lieutenant in the Cadet Corps. Charles Dunlap also attained the rank of lieutenant. Graves and Culver were on the football team. The first public intercollegiate football game ever played in the South was between Auburn and the University of Georgia, played at Atlanta in 1892. In this game Culver made the first touchdown, the inaugural touchdown of Southern intercollegiate football.

Beta Theta Chapter rented and furnished a hall before the opening of its second year, a small second-story room in a brick building on the northeast corner of College and Magnolia Streets. It was a modest meeting place, entered by a rear stairway, but it served for several years as the Auburn shrine of Sigma Nu.

Friendly relations existed with other fraternities and with the student body until during the years 1901-1903, when a serious antifraternity movement developed. The opposing element grew to considerable force, and the fight was at times so bitter that it ruptured student relationships. One year the non-fraternity element withdrew support from the *Glomerata*, the Auburn annual, and published a separate yearbook. This antagonism gradually subsided, and the formation of other Greek-letter societies served to fortify the Hellenic position.

The establishment of Beta Theta and the revival of Iota realized Theta's long-cherished hope for sister Chapters in Alabama. These developments were also in accord with Harrington's extension program, which called for "filling up the gaps in the South". The major call was for growth in another direction, however, and with the founding of Beta Theta Chapter extension in the South ceased for a period of several years.



CHAPTER MAP OF SIGMA NU IN 1889

Showing distribution of Chapters established during the first two decades of the Fraternity's existence.

CHAPTER XIX

Across the Rubicon

A CHAPTER map of Sigma Nu at the end of its second decade reveals the result of haphazard extension which had penetrated Northern territory at widely separated points in the East and West, leaving the broad area of the central states without a Chapter of Sigma Nu. Isolated in the East were the Chapters at Yale and Lehigh. Across the Mississippi were Chapters at the University of Kansas, University of Missouri and Cornell College, Iowa, far removed from other shrines. In between these sectional outposts were the States of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, which Sigma Nu had not entered. The more striking was this peculiar situation when it is realized that the fraternity system, during the twenty-year period after the birth of Sigma Nu, found its greatest field of development in this central territory then untouched by this Fraternity. The three fraternities composing the Miami Triad and the two that were founded at Jefferson College carried their bitter rivalry into the State of Indiana at the very beginning of their extension activities, and that State became the Hellenic battlefield where were practiced with vicious animosities piratical methods that brought the fraternity system into such wide disfavor. Eight colleges and universities in the State of Indiana had been entered by fraternities prior to 1890. Evidence of unscrupulous hostility among them was written on the membership rolls of some of these fraternities which practiced "lifting". In at least one instance a faithless individual appeared on the rolls of three fraternities.

Indiana Asbury College, which later became DePauw University, was the first to be entered by fraternities. Beta Theta Pi established its ninth Chapter there in 1845. Phi Gamma Delta entered in 1856; Sigma Chi in 1859; Phi Kappa Psi, 1865; Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1866; Phi Delta Theta, 1868; Delta Tau Delta, 1871; and Delta Upsilon in 1887. Indiana Asbury College was established at Greencastle, Indiana, in 1837 by itinerant ministers of the Methodist Church, then known as circuit-riders. It soon became one of the foremost colleges in the new West. Its progress was halted during the Civil War, and its existence was threatened during the financial panic which followed a few years later. The College was saved through donations from Washington C. DePauw. The scope of the institution then was enlarged, and the name was changed to DePauw University.

Early in 1890 seven members withdrew from the Webster Literary Society at DePauw and organized the Lethe Fraternity. The name suggested forgetfulness of their previous affiliation, as in fabled story those who passed through the river Lethe forgot their past when they entered the new realm beyond. The leader in this movement was Alvin D. Dorsett, who conceived the idea of com-

bining the helpful features of the literary society with the brotherly associations of a fraternity. Dorsett was by nature an organizer, and the Lethe Fraternity was at once recognized as an influential factor in university affairs. In the fall of 1890 four members of the Lethe Society returned to DePauw and two new members were added. Through a corresponding acquaintance in the DePauw Chapter of Alpha Phi sorority Howard E. Cooper, of Nu Chapter, University of Kansas, was put in communication with William R. Hornbaker, a member of Lethe, who had been graduated from DePauw in the spring of 1890. Hornbaker referred the matter to Alvin Dorsett, and through Dorsett and Cooper negotiations were carried on which resulted in a petition for a charter from Sigma Nu. The charter was speedily granted, and Elmer F. Engel, of Nu, was sent to Greencastle to install the new Chapter.



ALVIN D. DORSETT, BETA BETA
Leader in the organization of Beta Beta at DePauw University, the first Chapter of Sigma Nu north of the Ohio River.

On November 19, 1890, Engel initiated, as charter members of Beta Beta Chapter, Alvin D. Dorsett, Charles A. Jakes, Steta Takashima, Eugene F. Talbot and Adrian E. Tinkham. Hornbaker later was initiated when he returned to DePauw for his A. M. degree, and was recorded as a charter member. The installation of the Chapter took place in the old Bishop Simpson residence, then used by the College of Arts, the site later occupied by Rector Hall. The Lethe Fraternity had been given Hellenic recognition, and the new Chapter experienced no outward antagonism from the other Greeks. There were over a thousand students attending DePauw University at the time. Although rivalry for the best material was keen, the field was not crowded.

Alvin Dorsett, considered the founder of Beta Beta Chapter, was a favorite among faculty members and students, ranking high in honors won. He had been president of both the Parliamentary and Webster Societies. He later served as editor-in-chief of *Bema*, the university periodical, and as editor of the *Annual*. He was founder and president of the Indiana College Press Association and chairman of the Western College Press Association. Charles Jakes was an enthusiastic aid in the organization of Beta Beta Chapter and was its standby for several years during a period when he served as Division Chief. He was primarily responsible for the work of extension in the State which followed the founding of Beta Beta. Takashima was a highly cultured Japanese, very popular among the students, and intensely devoted to Sigma Nu. He traveled widely, lecturing during vacation periods, and made warm friends of Sigma Nus

wherever met. He was graduated at DePauw and attained high position in educational affairs in his native land, where his people were of noble rank.

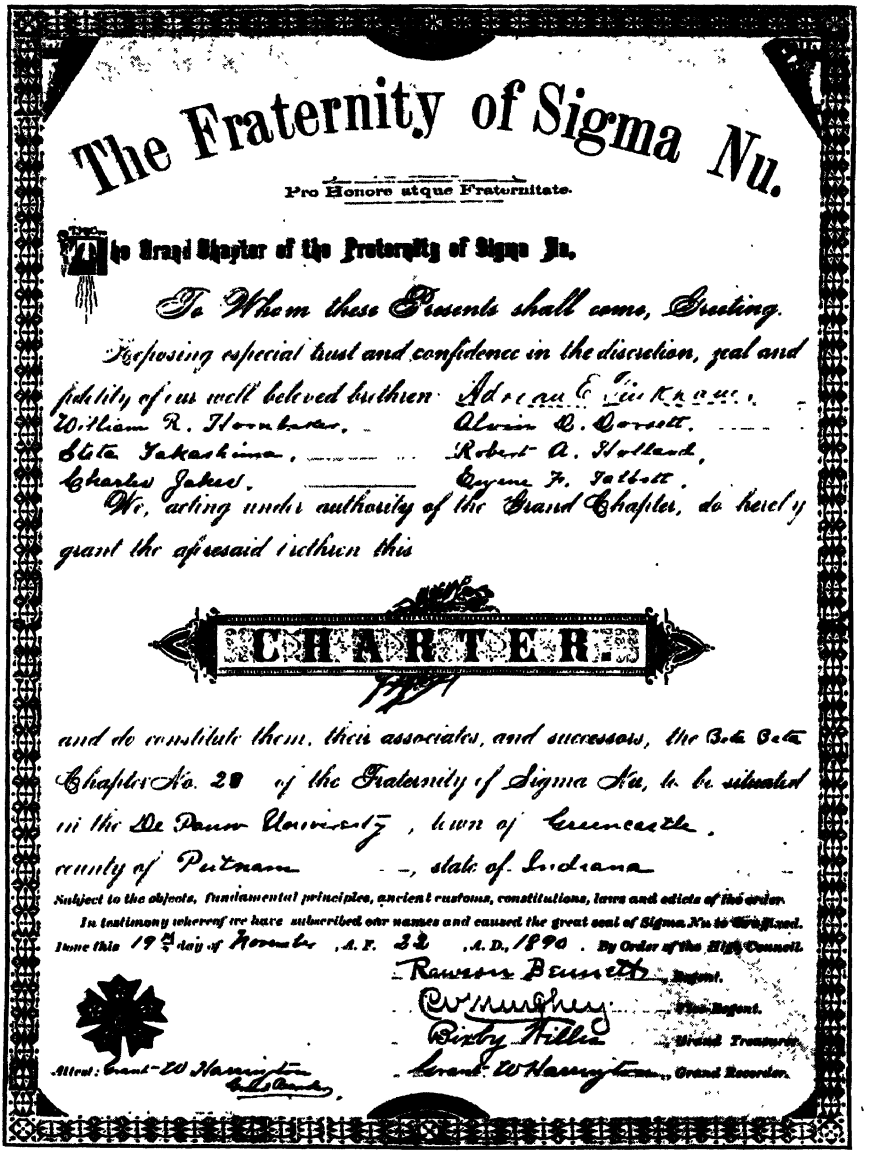
Three new members were added to Beta Beta's roll the last half of its first year, and several pledges were secured in the preparatory department. Prior to the entrance of Sigma Nu it had been a practice of fraternities at DePauw to initiate preparatory students in all three grades of that department. Beta Beta did not initiate "prep" students, but pledged them and judiciously organized them into an auxiliary Chapter which linked them in close fellowship during a period of probation. Although but six initiated members returned in the fall of 1891, Beta Beta's second year, the number was augmented by a substantial list of pledges who had shared the fellowship of the preceding year. Dorsett and Jakes had sold books during the summer to provide means for furnishing a hall. They were very successful in the venture, and purchased complete furnishings for two-room quarters, which they rented in the second story of a building on the east side of the public square at Greencastle. They had the furniture, rugs and curtains shipped in, and had everything placed in order before presenting to the Chapter this equipment of one of the best furnished fraternity halls at DePauw.



CHARLES A. JAKES, BETA BETA
Charter member of the DePauw Chapter who was largely responsible in making Beta Beta a pivotal factor in extension activities north of the Ohio River.

This attractive meeting place was a great asset to the Chapter, and helped to secure a select organization of pledges from the preparatory department, seventeen composing this auxiliary group during the year 1891-92. The president and vice president of the senior "prep" class and the president of the preparatory literary society were won through the effective organization. The president of DePauw, an alumnus of one of the other fraternities existing there, was a great admirer of the early members of Beta Beta Chapter. As a result his nephew, Dane S. Dunlop, pledged himself to Sigma Nu with two "prep" associates who previously had agreed with Dunlop not to pledge themselves to any fraternity until after finishing their preparatory course.

Beta Beta Chapter and its subsidiary organization were conducted on a very high moral plane, with personnel strikingly consistent with the ideals of a strict Methodist institution. Their pledging system, which developed the second year, was based on a probation plan that permitted the Chapter or pledge to withdraw from the contract before initiation if either failed to measure up to the standard. Under the conscientious advocacy of Dane Dunlop, this moral pre-



The Fraternity of Sigma Nu.

Pro Honore atque Fraternitate.

The Grand Chapter of the Fraternity of Sigma Nu,

To Whom these Presents shall come, Greeting.

Reposing especial trust and confidence in the discretion, zeal and fidelity of our well beloved brethren Adrian E. Kraus, William R. Hornbeck, Alvin D. Dorsett, Shiro Takashima, Robert A. Holland, Charles Jakes, Eugene F. Talbott.

We, acting under authority of the Grand Chapter, do hereby grant the aforesaid brethren this

CHARTER

and do constitute them, their associates, and successors, the Beta Beta Chapter No. 28 of the Fraternity of Sigma Nu, to be situated in the De Pauw University, town of Greencastle, county of Putnam, state of Indiana

Subject to the objects, fundamental principles, ancient customs, constitutions, laws and edicts of the order.

In testimony whereof we have subscribed our names and caused the great seal of Sigma Nu to be affixed. Done this 19th day of November, A. F. 32, A. D., 1890. By Order of the High Council.

Rawson Brunette, Regent.

C. Mowbray, Vice-Regent.

Birdy Hillis, Grand Treasurer.

Grant W. Harrington, Grand Recorder.

Attest: Grant W. Harrington, Grand Recorder.

CHARTER OF BETA BETA CHAPTER

This form of charter was issued during the administration of Grand Recorder Harrington.

dilection of Beta Beta developed into a severe application of a "Declaration of Principles", which at the beginning of the third year each pledge had signed. The fourth article in this Code declared:

"We hereby refuse to admit to the Sigma Nu Fraternity, or to retain in it, any person who uses tobacco, profane or indecent language, or who plays cards, or who in any particular violates in the College year the rules for specific conduct as printed in the yearbooks of the University."

The rules of the University for specific conduct at that time forbade using any intoxicating liquors as a beverage; visiting places where liquor was sold; using tobacco in any university building; using profane language; indecency of speech or behavior; all immorality; dancing; card playing; visiting any billiard saloon or theater.

The severe application of these rules by the Chapter brought division after a member had been suspended for smoking. The highly developed organization which had been fostered among the pledges the previous year resulted in the underclassmen, who were in the majority, having the power and ruling the Chapter. Against this condition with its Puritanical proscriptions, seven of the upperclassmen rebelled and resigned from the Chapter. There were no charter members in the Chapter at the time. Jakes was Chief of the Division and went to Greencastle to try to harmonize differences. He was not at once successful, but in time the situation worked out so that the suspended and resigned members were returned to the Chapter roll.

Dane Dunlop was as earnest in his Sigma Nu devotion as he was conscientious in his moral convictions. Few members of the Fraternity ever served more assiduously as chapter workers, and as alumni few members devoted more thought and made more constructive suggestions than did Dane Dunlop during the years immediately following his graduation from DePauw. His views were radical, but if he seemed bigoted in his principles he was broad in his purpose, and his influence in one instance in later history was stamped indelibly on the Fraternity's record in a way that will forever reflect credit upon Sigma Nu.

From its very beginning Beta Beta Chapter took a high place in the regard of the general Fraternity, several of its early members becoming active and influential in the national affairs of the organization. Entering as a wedge into the very center of fraternity life and development, this founding was hailed as a forerunner of a broader growth. Harrington was doubly proud of the achievement because it resulted through the activity of members from his own Chapter and since it followed so soon his victory over reactionary control. His editorial comment in *The Delta* was exultant and optimistic:

"The Rubicon, or rather the Ohio, is crossed at last, and with the establishment of our Beta Beta Chapter at DePauw University we believe there has been ushered in a new era in our Chapter development. It was understood at the Chattanooga Grand Chapter that the incoming High Council must be composed of men who were in favor of a vigorous Northern and Western extension policy, and on that issue the present governing body of the Fraternity was chosen. DePauw is the 'first fruits' of this renewed activity, but it will not be the last, as the close of the year will show."

Four months after the date of founding of Beta Beta Chapter another link was welded into Harrington's chain of Western Chapters, the influence of the ever-alert Rho Chapter, University of Missouri, having been responsible for this accession. During the year 1889 there had been established at Marshall, Missouri, the Missouri Valley College, founded on the faith, hope and ambition of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and built out of the struggles and privations of the members of that most earnest, zealous and almost Puritan-like denomination. The College was supported by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of four Western States and drew many of its students from neighboring Southern States. The standard of Missouri Valley College was high, considered at that time equivalent to that of the University of Missouri. Its curricula were of the thoroughly classical kind that stressed the study of Latin, Greek and theology.

During the year 1890-91 there were over two hundred students in attendance at Missouri Valley College. An unusually fine group of young men from the Marshall High School had entered the College that year. They had been bound together in friendship by ties of a social club in high school, and this bond of fellowship remained intact after they entered Missouri Valley College. The same year another group of friends entered the College from a preparatory school located at Odessa, Missouri. It was soon observed that these two groups represented similar tastes and social inclinations. Without any regular organization or fixed purpose they gravitated together under the impulse of congeniality and became very influential in college affairs. Being progressive in spirit, they felt the restraint of the narrow and circumscribed life of the College and felt the need for the advantages and associations which were being enjoyed in fraternity relationships at other places.

The town of Marshall and the county in which it was located had contributed several prominent members to Rho Chapter at the University of Missouri, some of whom were then in the Collegiate Chapter, others being citizens of high standing in the community. Among this number was Robert L. McCulloch, then Inspector of the Fourth Division. It was natural, therefore, that the ambition of the local college group should be directed toward Sigma Nu. Leslie Corder, Rho alumnus, a young attorney at Marshall, became interested with McCulloch in the proposal to secure a charter for a Chapter at Missouri Valley College. Hiram J. Groves was sent from the University of Missouri Chapter to investigate the matter and reported favorably. The High Council was petitioned for a charter, which was promptly granted. In the meantime the prospective petitioners had conferred with the president of the College. They were led to believe that they had his approval and that no objection would be raised to the establishment of the Chapter.

The new Chapter, designated as Beta Gamma, was installed on March 21, 1891, by Inspector Robert L. McCulloch, Hiram J. Groves, Ollie S. Osborne and Emile Thomas, who had been delegated by Rho Chapter to perform the initiations. The ceremonies took place in the directors' room of a local bank. The charter members of Beta Gamma Chapter initiated there were Rufus A.

Vance, Charles L. Gaines, Norman M. Windsor, John T. Bacon, John A. Wettack and Thomas H. Cobbs. A celebration at the home of Rufus Vance concluded the functions of one of the best conducted and most promising installations held up to that time.

The high hopes that had attended the establishment of Beta Gamma Chapter were widely shattered within a week by a summons from the faculty, directing the members to appear before that body. Announcement was made that the faculty had decided not to allow fraternities in the College. A demand was made that the charter from Sigma Nu be returned forthwith, and that the Chapter disband immediately, penalty of expulsion from the College being the alternative. The only reason that could be surmised as the cause of this sudden reversal of attitude was the fact that the son of the dean, the most influential member of the faculty, had not been invited into membership. The students almost unanimously rebelled against this decision, their protest being voiced at a mass meeting. The members of Sigma Nu were urged to stand their ground, but it was decided instead to cease open activity and pursue their associations in *sub rosa* existence.



BETA GAMMA GROUP
Part of the Missouri Valley College Chapter, 1890-91. Standing—Rufus A. Vance. Seated, left to right—Norman M. Windsor; John A. Wettack; John M. Roberts.

Grand Recorder Harrington visited Marshall two weeks after the decree had been issued, and agreed that the breach of faith, evidenced in the faculty action, justified the decision of the Chapter to continue its organization under cover. Complying with faculty command, the charter was turned over to Harrington. But instead of being revoked, it was placed by Harrington in the keeping of Leslie Corder, whose law offices became a meeting place of the Chapter. The Master of the Masonic Lodge offered the use of its lodge rooms to the Chapter, and other evidences of local sentiment in favor of the Sigma Nus were demonstrated. The ruling of the faculty remained unchanged, however, but not to the accomplishment of its purpose. Instead of discouraging the Chapter, opposition strengthened the bonds of brotherhood, and the members held together with greater tenacity and with greater loyalty as a result of this adversity. Three associates of the charter members were taken into the fellowship of the Chapter soon after its installation and were initiated immediately following commencement, when the jurisdiction of the College was suspended. These three initiates, who became closely

associated with the early activities of Beta Gamma Chapter, were John C. Worley, Andrew T. Alison and John M. Roberts.

In the fall of 1891 Gaines and Wettack, displeased with the attitude of the faculty of Missouri Valley College, entered the University of Missouri, affiliating with Rho Chapter. All the other members of Beta Gamma returned, and three new members were added during the first term. The principal college honors, including the presidencies of the two literary societies, were held by Sigma Nus. In every department of college activity, members of the Chapter achieved. The constant necessity for caution added charm and excitement to the Chapter's existence. During the year 1891-92 fraternity life in Beta Gamma was exhilarated by experiences which intensified the enjoyment of its members. It was generally admitted that the Sigma Nus were operating a *sub rosa* Chapter, but the identity of the membership and the proof of their violation of the faculty ruling were successfully concealed during this year. One narrow escape, accomplished by scrambling over fences, involved the necessity of carrying the Chapter's goat in the retreat. Although no tangible evidence was left behind on that occasion, it was believed that the opposition got "scent" of the secret meeting. A code of signs and signals was used in communication, a whippoorwill call from the hedges around the campus having many times sounded the summons for an adventure in fellowship.



BETA GAMMA GROUP
With the Chapter's Famous Goat.
Reading down, left—George A. Althous, Rufus A. Vance, Andrew T. Alison. Right—John C. Worley, Churchill H. Guthrie, John M. Roberts.

In the fall of 1892 only Rufus Vance, John Roberts and the goat returned for action. Before the opening of the college, the three veterans participated in an initiation which added three members to the Chapter. During the summer Roberts had worked his way to St. Louis on a cattle train, having planned thus to conceal his mission, which was to represent Beta Gamma at the Sixth Grand Chapter. It became known that through pre-entrance initiations Vance and Roberts had plotted continued evasion of the antifraternity rule, and before college opened they were called to answer charges of summer maneuvering. The accusations were not denied, but their rights during vacation period were defended, and threatened expulsion did not take place. Instead Vance was

graduated with second honors in the class of 1893, and the next year Roberts led his graduating class in scholarship, winning the honor of *magna cum laude.*

Without John Roberts the Chapter did not long survive the difficulties of *sub rosa* existence. Initiations that took place after his graduation in the spring of 1894 were not productive of the leadership necessary successfully to combat faculty hostility, and Beta Gamma Chapter gradually drifted into dormancy. Although its career was brief, it fulfilled a mission in demonstrating the character of men to be acquired and the true fraternal spirit to be enjoyed in the atmosphere of small college environment. To be counted among the Sigma Nus at Missouri Valley College was to be acknowledged of high scholarship rank and of unquestioned social standing. Without exception the sixteen members recorded on the roll of Beta Gamma remained a credit to the Fraternity in their several lines of achievement in life.



JOHN M. ROBERTS, BETA GAMMA
Leading spirit of the colorful career of Beta Gamma.

The gain from the associations that surrounded this Chapter's activities is not confined to the record of Beta Gamma. Rho Chapter, University of Missouri, twice had attempted extension work during the years of Langton's regency without securing necessary endorsement. Success in establishing Beta Gamma Chapter stimulated Rho's lagging spirit. As a result of this renewed vigor the Missouri Alumni Association was organized at Columbia, September 7-8, 1892. Orville M. Barnett, of Rho, who was principally responsible for the meeting, was elected the first Secretary of this Missouri alumni organization. Rho alumni had a peculiarly intimate relationship with the Chapter at Missouri Valley College, sharing with beneficent concern the associations of fraternity life at that place. It is testimonial to the worth of a Chapter in such environment that the town of Marshall, Missouri, gave to Sigma Nu two Regents—Hamilton



ORVILLE M. BARNETT, RHO
First Secretary of the Missouri State Association.

M. Dawes bringing the honor to Rho Chapter; John M. Roberts, in this exalted office, crowning three decades of fraternity service. The fraternity career of John Roberts alone stands as a vindication of the founding of Beta Gamma Chapter. The fact that at one time in later years three members of Sigma Nu, one of whom was Roberts, were on the Board of Trustees of Missouri Valley College gave great satisfaction to those who once were outlawed by narrow-minded intolerance.

Less than a month after Beta Gamma Chapter was established Grand Recorder Harrington concluded negotiations which resulted in the installation of another Chapter. This acquisition was unique in that the society absorbed was founded before the birth of Sigma Nu. Lombard College, at Galesburg, Illinois, was the seat of this extraordinary development. Lombard College grew out of the Illinois Liberal Institute, established by the Universalist Church in 1852. Fire destroyed the buildings three years later, and when rebuilding began in the fall of 1855 the name was changed to Lombard College. The institution from the start was surrounded by a high moral and religious influence, always liberal and progressive. It is natural, therefore, that fraternities were never opposed at Lombard.

A group of leaders at Lombard met in February, 1867, and founded a local fraternity named Delta Theta. The society flourished, and two years after its inception it was made a Chapter of Delta Tau Delta, for many years maintaining an honorable position in that fraternity. In 1885 difficulties arose between the Chapter and the fraternity with which it had been affiliated for sixteen years and the Delta Tau Delta charter was voluntarily returned. The Chapter resumed the name and ritual of Delta Theta, and for four years pursued an independent existence, prospering by virtue of its early prestige and maintaining its high standard in every way. Phi Delta Theta had entered Lombard in 1878 and was the only rival of Delta Theta local when it resumed its original identity.

At the end of four years of independent existence and after the former members of Delta Tau Delta had passed out of the active Chapter the collegiate members of Delta Theta began to feel the need of a broader and more lasting fraternity relationship. Recognizing Sigma Nu as a progressive organization, they invited Grand Recorder Harrington to be a guest at the twenty-third annual banquet of Delta Theta in February, 1891, expressing a desire to discuss the prospect of their becoming a Chapter of Sigma Nu. Harrington was impressed with the personnel and with the possibilities and strongly endorsed the petition. The charter was granted and on April 8, 1891, Harrington returned to Lombard, installing the Chapter on that date. The name Delta Theta was retained as the Chapter's designation in Sigma Nu.

The charter members of Delta Theta Chapter were Charles A. C. Garst, William T. Smith, William F. Smith, Robert D. Hill, Benjamin W. Jones, Frank Chapman, James Alvin Clark, Jasper L. Everton, Singleton A. Dennis, Joseph A. Crum, Elijah E. Hammond, Willis C. Shippee, Albert S. Humphrey, Thomas Nolan, Benjamin A. Brown, Harry C. Richardson and Mathew Patrick O'Donnell. W. T. Smith was president of his class, president of Erosophian

Literary Society, became editor-in-chief of the Lombard *Review*, and was captain of baseball. W. F. Smith served as editor-in-chief of the Lombard *Review*. Hill was president of the Emersonian Literary Society. Everton was president of the Philolethian Society. James Alvin Clark, one of the most brilliant of the charter members, was only a sophomore at the time the Chapter was installed, and the next year entered a divinity school. He became the most active in Sigma Nu of all the charter members, however, serving as Vice Regent of the Fraternity.

Delta Theta Chapter entered Sigma Nu with a fund of over six hundred dollars accumulated for a chapter house, by far the best financed group that had been taken into the Fraternity. The Seventh Grand Chapter authorized initiation of alumni of the old Delta Theta society into Sigma Nu, but very few accepted the privilege of membership. Their support was almost unanimously given to the Chapter's affiliation with the Fraternity, however, and the annual banquets of Delta Theta brought alumni of the old society each year into the fellowship of Sigma Nu. Delta Theta Chapter history runs consistent with the high character and achievements of the charter members. Wholesome fraternity life has ever been the rule of Lombard. A unique feature in the history of Delta Theta Chapter is the credit given to members for assisting in the organization, in the writing of the ritual and in the early extension of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority, which was founded at Lombard in 1893. The record of Sigma Nu at Lombard has always been a matter of pride to the members of the Chapter. In regard for Sigma Nu no others have been more loyal and appreciative than the members of Delta Theta Chapter.

Developments came rapidly in Harrington's extension program during the spring of 1891. Within two months, beginning at the date of Beta Gamma's founding, four new Chapters were established. In the third acquisition Harrington formed contact with what seemed to be one of the most promising opportunities of the time. Drake University, opened in 1880 at Des Moines, Iowa, was at that time the only educational institution west of the Mississippi supported by the Christian Church. It was considered the leading school of that denomination in the country. It was well endowed and was attended by sons of prominent and well-to-do families of western states. Fraternities were prohibited by rule, but it was not believed the decrees would be enforced if tactfully put to a test.

In the fall of 1890 Charles M. Cathcart, of Chi Chapter, Cornell College, entered Drake University. Cathcart's home was in Des Moines and naturally he had a desire to place a Chapter there. John A. L. Campbell, a charter member of the Yale Chapter, had been graduated at Drake, and through his friendship with the librarian there Sigma Nu had a staunch feminine supporter in a strategic position. The project was not set in motion until in March, 1891, when Harrington visited Des Moines to investigate the situation. His approval was given and a petition was prepared and passed. On April 15, 1891, Beta Delta Chapter was installed by Charles M. Cathcart, who was recorded first among five charter members. The others were his brother, Frank D. Cath-

cart, Herbert H. Everest, George W. Gonder and William Chisholm. Their first meeting was held in the Cathcart home.

Ten members composed Beta Delta Chapter by commencement time. The number was increased to thirteen during the next college year and included first honor man and other honor winners in scholarship; the presidents of the literary societies; the leading orators; principal class officers; the captain of the baseball team; and the editor and business manager of the *Delphic*, the student periodical. The Chapter seemed to have little difficulty in achieving its aims, possibly not enough opposition to generate a chapter spirit. They operated *sub rosa*, but doubtless unnecessarily, because it became known generally that Sigma Nu had a Chapter there. At any rate the zest that was usually aroused by faculty and student opposition was lacking and the members lost whatever interest they had in the Chapter. Harrington declared what they most needed was a rival. Several members returned to the University for the college year 1892-93, but they did not reorganize, and Beta Delta passed out as it began—without a struggle.

About the time that Harrington began his crusade for Western Chapters the State of Iowa was a center of unusual collegiate activity, which in certain institutions resulted in superinduced prosperity, the impermanence of which was not then anticipated. The University of Iowa was just on the threshold of its greater development and Iowa State College did not at that time hold a place relatively significant of its future prestige. The smaller colleges in the State then shared the prominence and patronage which was later drawn from them in great measure with the development of these larger State institutions. Upper Iowa University, at Fayette, Iowa, was one of the institutions which was attaining its maximum in attendance and prosperity when Harrington was prospecting for promising Western Chapter locations. Upper Iowa University was established in 1857 under the control of the Iowa Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In the six years prior to 1891 it had grown in attendance from about two hundred and fifty to over five hundred students. Fraternities had been officially opposed and none had tried to enter.

The colleges and universities of Iowa were then intimately connected in inter-collegiate athletic and oratorical associations. Cornell College, at Mount Vernon, won many laurels in these inter-collegiate contests, and as a rule members of Chi Chapter of Sigma Nu at Cornell College were the winners of these honors. Consequently Sigma Nu held a conspicuous place in the estimation of students in the several contending institutions. Supported by this prominence the propagating spirit which Carl Lane Clemans had instilled into the members of Chi Chapter made extension in Iowa inevitable. Beta Delta at Drake sprang from this source and the same year, again through the instrumentality of a Chi alumnus, a third Chapter of Sigma Nu was established in the State of Iowa.

In the fall of 1890 Henry M. Hoag, of Chi, entered Upper Iowa University. Through persuasion by Clemans and Harrington an effort to establish Sigma Nu was undertaken. Five pledges were secured, a petition was promulgated in May, 1891, and a charter was granted. Approval was not gained in time for

installation before commencement and the ceremony was postponed until the fall term. In September, 1891, Harry M. Hoag returned to Fayette, and with the assistance of Carl Lane Clemans initiated the five co-petitioners, who with Hoag became the charter members of Beta Epsilon Chapter. Those initiated at that time were Charles J. Martin, Frank T. Bement, Elbert H. Estey, Christopher R. Alderson and William F. Baker. The first initiate after the installation was Burtella N. Hendricks. Two others were taken in during the month of December, making a Chapter of nine members which existed *sub rosa* during the year.

As in the case of Beta Delta at Drake, the membership of Beta Epsilon Chapter embraced team captains, class officers and officers in the literary societies and in the athletic and oratorical associations. Likewise, this winning of honor men was accomplished without contest, and seemingly constituted the sole ambition of Beta Epsilon Chapter. Fraternity interest was evidenced by two or three of the members, but with the majority the organization was used as a medium to attain personal ambitions rather than being regarded for its real purpose and intended benefits. Faculty opposition, such as in other places bred fraternity loyalty, was submitted to by certain members of Beta Epsilon as a means of winning personal favoritism. Antifraternity agitation became involved in a general upheaval in the student body over a controversy between the literary societies and in a coincident disturbance growing out of class spirit. In the resultant chaos Beta Epsilon Chapter virtually lost its identity and ceased to exist, passing out with even less resistance than Beta Delta had displayed when it succumbed at Drake.

Manifestly, these two Chapters suffered for the want of rivals and from a lack of chapter spirit that was in some places aroused by faculty opposition, which made solitary existence in such places more productive of fraternity loyalty. The interest of members of Chi at Cornell College was stimulated and sustained by the relentless opposition of the faculty. At Missouri Valley College the chapter spirit of Beta Gamma was made more determined by hostile officials. The experiences of other Chapters up to this time verified a simple axiom that is generally evident throughout the history of Sigma Nu, as in almost any worthwhile attainment. It is noteworthy that Chapters which had to fight for existence or for achievement usually developed a militant chapter spirit and abiding fraternity relationships. Theta at the University of Alabama thrived on opposition, much of its traditional strength resulting from competition with Phi Delta Theta. Rho reveled in rivalry with Beta Theta Pi at the University of Missouri, its roll of faithful alumni bearing testimony to the benefit. Nu at Kansas was born fighting combined Hellenic opposition and produced Bennett and Harrington, two of the greatest leaders in fraternity history, as a consequence of loyalty learned in sacrifice for Sigma Nu. The crowning Chapter acquisition of the college year 1890-91 was characterized by a similar situation, singular in that it was directly descendant from Nu Chapter.

CHAPTER XX

Beaten Paths and Pioneer Trails

WHEN Grant Harrington arrived in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1882 to enter the preparatory department of the University, his first acquaintance was William H. Sears, a young fellow, seven years his senior, who lived near Lawrence and who had dropped in for a visit with friends in whose home Harrington had arranged for room and board. This chance meeting proved of great importance in the history of Sigma Nu, since in the fall after the founding of Nu Chapter William Sears became a student at the University, the renewal of his acquaintance with Grant Harrington resulting in his being initiated into Sigma Nu. In the meantime the parents of Sears, a New England-born couple, who during early married life had settled in Kansas, had moved from their farm, about twelve miles from Lawrence, to Chillicothe, Ohio. In 1887 another son, Clarence H. Sears, returned to Kansas to enter the University and was initiated into Sigma Nu. In the spring of 1889 a third son, Walter James Sears, was graduated from the Chillicothe, Ohio, high school and that fall joined his brother Clarence as a student at the University of Kansas. William Sears had been graduated, was married and resided in Lawrence. In his home Clarence and Walter Sears lived during their college careers at Kansas.

Within a week after his arrival in Lawrence, Walter Sears had been initiated, the fiftieth member on the roll of Nu Chapter. He was at once drawn into college political activities, always interesting and lively at Kansas, and at that time featured by the growing prominence of Sigma Nu. Clarence Sears was that year an editor on the *University Courier,* a member of the executive committee of the oratorical association and president of the Athenian Literary Society. Walter Sears had natural talent and fascination for journalistic work, which had found expression in an amateur newspaper venture engaged in during high school years with his younger brother Lorin and in repertorial work on local newspapers. His worth was quickly recognized by an appointment on the editorial staff of the *University Courier.* Before the end of the year he was made editor-in-chief of this weekly publication, a rare distinction for a freshman. In other ways the year at Kansas proved of practical benefit to Walter Sears in preparing him for leadership in his inaugural battle for Sigma Nu. Political sense and sagacity were essential requirements at that time in meeting Hellenic opposition, and the University of Kansas was a veritable training school in this respect.

During the year that Walter Sears attended the University of Kansas his brother, Lorin Beecher Sears, was completing his high school course in Chillicothe, Ohio, contemplating college entrance the next year. Lorin was conceded to be the most promising of these four brilliant Sears sons, and it was hoped by the members of Nu Chapter that he would complete the fraternal

affiliation of brothers at the Kansas shrine of Sigma Nu. The parents overruled this suggestion, desiring to have this last son nearer home, and decided that Lorin should enter Ohio State University. This determined Walter Sears to join his younger brother there. The two had been companions through boyhood and during high school years, and their first separation had strengthened an early resolve that their college life should be spent together. The wish to make Lorin a Sigma Nu was alone sufficient to influence Walter Sears to transfer to Ohio State University, where he planned to establish a Chapter. This



WILLIAM H. SEARS, NU



CLARENCE H. SEARS, NU

Two of four Sears brothers, whose records of service and enduring loyalty glorified the early history of Nu Chapter, University of Kansas.

was the prospect supporting Harrington's resolution at the Chattanooga Grand Chapter in August, 1890, which forced the issue between the ultra-conservatives and the progressive extensionists, resulting in the granting of a dispensation for instituting a Chapter there.

Ohio State University was established at Columbus in 1868, almost coincident with the birth of Sigma Nu. Fraternity life began there ten years later, when Phi Gamma Delta installed a Chapter. Phi Kappa Psi entered in 1880; Sigma Chi in 1882; Chi Phi and Phi Delta Theta in 1883; and Beta Theta Pi in 1885. The lack of further entries during the next five years was due largely to the attitude of the fraternities existing there, a very powerful and arbitrary combine having been built up, which dominated the situation and by any method necessary discouraged the establishment of other fraternities at Ohio State University. The force of this combination was set against Walter Sears' designs to start a Chapter of Sigma Nu. The motive was complicated

by the desire of one of the strongest fraternities of the group to pledge Lorin Sears. This challenge struck the heart of his brother Walter, the blood of whose militant ancestry was aroused and the instinct of whose political sense was stirred.

Lorin was taken into the confidence of his devoted brother during the summer and plans for action were formulated. It was agreed that the preliminary work should proceed under cover. Walter was late in matriculating, a newspaper engagement having held him longer than he had expected, and Lorin began his college life by rooming with Robert E. Safford, an admiring chum from Chillicothe. Safford became secretly allied with the Sigma Nu venture. He was very popular socially and immediately attracted the favor of fraternities. Lorin was shown favor in literary society appointments controlled by the fraternities, and with Safford was introduced into the social life of the University. Activity in behalf of Sigma Nu did not begin until the latter part of November, when Walter Sears matriculated. On November 26, 1890, he wrote to Harrington:

"My Dear Grant:

"I am still fighting along on the old line. The new frat at O. S. U. is my one purpose. Things are looking decidedly brighter than they did three months ago. I shall enter the University next Monday; then I propose to take my coat off and go in to 'get there'. I am confident of success.

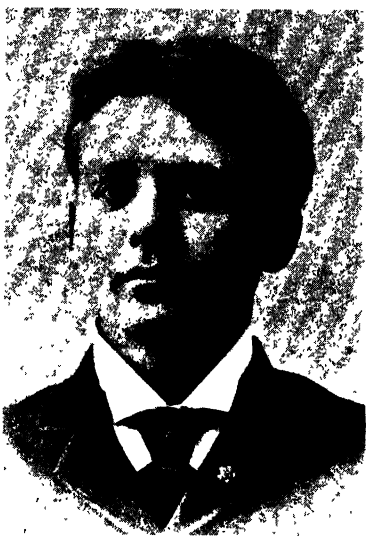
"My brother Lorin has received three bids since entering, but has held stoutly out. He says he wants to join the frat to which his three brothers belong, and I say he is all right. Lorin is but one of 'two' who have been bid by them. Some way or other they got on to the new frat enterprise, and of course they have been breaking their necks to burst it. The chances are that they will break their necks."

A new experience confronted Walter Sears when he entered Ohio State University. "Lifting" had been encountered by Nu Chapter in its early battles, but the piratical practice had ceased some time after the entrance of Sigma Nu. Farther east, where the dishonorable procedure was first pursued, certain fraternities still dealt in disloyalty. Walter Sears was surprised to find himself being rushed by one of the leading fraternities which had bid Lorin, the fact that the elder brother was a member of Sigma Nu having been well known. Discussing this development in a letter to Harrington, Walter declared:

"I am not kicking particularly about it. Under their charge I am being introduced to the professors and students, asked to speak in the literary societies, and all that. This, you understand, is a part of our diplomacy. Lorin will hold his answer until the last minute, and in the meantime he and I will be rushed *a la mode.*"

Early in December Sherman E. Burke, a promising freshman, was pledged to the secret enterprise and became an active aid in the cause. Several other prospects were pursued during the winter months, a period of alternating hopefulness and discouragement. With alluring promises to those already pledged and by disparaging arguments to others being rushed, the allied opponents relentlessly beset Sears' efforts and several times success seemed improbable.

Walter Sears never faltered with despair. At one time he had ten prospects lined up and was prepared to install the Chapter with that number. The interfraternity league, in a final assault, adopted and published a formal decree that for a period of three years no new fraternity would be recognized at Ohio State. Such an edict by this powerful Greek oligarchy signified that during that period no member of an unallied fraternity could expect position in any of the societies or on the boards which they controlled. It precluded representation of any such fraternity on the *Makio*, the university annual, the contents of which were dictated by the interfraternity league.



WALTER J. SEARS,
NU-BETA NU

Distinguished initiate of the University of Kansas Chapter, who founded Beta Nu at Ohio State University.

This was a shock that shattered the morale of some of the prospects whom Walter Sears had lined up. So great was the power of the league that the decree threatened ostracism, in a sense, for those who ignored its edict. Lorin Sears was the one it was hoped would be dissuaded by the proscription. He was marked for college honors, and by winning him away from the movement it was believed the undertaking would collapse and be abandoned. The coup was timed to the moment of seeming success, Walter Sears having written Harrington that a roll of seven was certain, that three others were near pledging and that he planned to initiate the men within the week. Before the letter was mailed the league's last thrust was delivered and caused some wavering among the pledges. In reporting the crisis to Harrington, Sears commented as follows:

"That was a stunning blow right on the morn of success. But I did not give up to grief, although I felt like it. I went to work on those fellows. I never used my tongue so much in my life. I literally talked them back to Sigma Nu, and now I have them again in her ranks."

On May 22, 1891, Walter James Sears initiated into Sigma Nu his brother, Lorin B. Sears, Arthur W. Evans, Charles G. Buemler and Sherman E. Burke, installing the first Chapter in Ohio and the second north of the river of that name. It was christened Beta Nu Chapter, linking in the name its connection with Nu at the University of Kansas. The ceremony was performed in a room at the Park Hotel in Columbus. Lorin Sears was made Commander of the Chapter, Walter Sears taking the office of Grand Scribe. Within the next three weeks Ray S. Blinn and Harry J. Walker were added to the roll and were included as charter members of Beta Nu Chapter. Knowledge of the successful

launching of the Chapter was kept secret. The other fraternities believed they had crushed the movement. When the *Makio* made its annual appearance it announced the failure of Sigma Nu to establish a Chapter. Two days later, on June 18, 1891, the seven charter members appeared on the campus with badges and colors triumphantly displayed.

The reception of the new Fraternity was outwardly cordial, but the league ban against them was invoked as threatened and remained a barrier until in 1894. During the interim other fraternities had entered and prospered and the proscriptive action failed to create the embarrassment intended. Instead it made stronger the bonds between the members of Sigma Nu. Robert E. Safford, long sought by other fraternities, gave the Chapter a hopeful start in the fall of its second year by joining Sigma Nu. Harry P. Junk, of Nu, affiliated, adding a pillar of strength to Beta Nu and beginning a career of service that extended to the work of the general Fraternity. In personnel the new Chapter early achieved such distinction that its rank in the Fraternity became traditionally respected, from the day of its birth Beta Nu having been regarded as one of Sigma Nu's foremost Chapters. In the affairs of the University, also, the alumni of Beta Nu became very active and influential. In this sphere, as in their fraternity work, Walter Sears was pre-eminent among them, becoming in later years a member and president of the Board of Trustees of Ohio State University.



LORIN B. SEARS, BETA NU-NU
Charter member of the Chapter at Ohio State University, who won distinction as an affiliate at Nu, University of Kansas.

In the fall of 1893 Lorin Sears was induced to transfer to the University of Kansas to complete his college course. He affiliated with Nu Chapter and at once threw himself into the activities of the student body to advance further the position of Sigma Nu, which his three brothers had helped to achieve. His greatest triumph of the year was the winning of the oratorical contest, making him the University's representative in the State contest. His concluding achievement was the direction of commencement week dramatics, in which play he also took a leading role. After graduation Lorin returned to Ohio, worn out from the strenuous activities of his senior year, but expecting to regain his vitality during the summer at his home in Chillicothe, where he and his brother Walter were again united. An epidemic of typhoid fever followed. Walter and Lorin were stricken. Again they fought side by side. Lorin lost. He had been the first initiate recorded on the roll of Beta Nu, rejecting proffers of

place and influence, sacrificing personal ambition for Sigma Nu. He was the first to be taken from Beta Nu, having given beyond the limit of his physical endurance. Lorin Sears was a martyr in Sigma Nu.

The scene of extension activity shifted over the boundary line into the State of Indiana in the fall of 1891. Immediately after the founding of Beta Beta at DePauw the charter members of that Chapter began prospecting in the State, evidencing a missionary spirit acquired from Nu Chapter. The first result was the establishment of a Chapter at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. This University was founded in 1869 with Government land grant and State support, supplemented by a gift of $150,000 from John Purdue. The University early reached high rank through its departments of engineering. Sigma Chi placed a Chapter at Purdue in 1875, running *sub rosa* for several years because of faculty opposition, finally fighting its way through court action and with strong local influence until openly recognized. For ten years Sigma Chi had the field alone. Kappa Sigma entered in 1885.

During the college year 1890-91 a group was organized by two seniors to petition Beta Theta Pi, having the earnest support of faculty members of that fraternity. The petition was rejected because Beta Theta Pi then had a policy against placing a Chapter in a non-classical institution. The originators of the petition had been graduated in the spring of 1891 and the next fall those associates returning continued the organization, with no immediate plans except to run as a local. There were then about six hundred students at Purdue and there was no difficulty in maintaining a high standard of membership. The DePauw Sigma Nus, learning of the existence of the local, sent Charles Jakes, one of their charter members, to investigate. Upon his recommendation they began negotiations which resulted in a petition for a charter from Sigma Nu. Favorable action followed and Beta Beta Chapter was authorized to install the second Chapter in the State of Indiana.

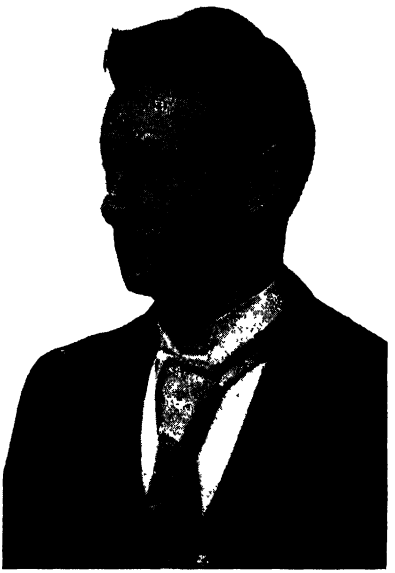
DePauw University at that time had a male quartette that was famous throughout the State. The leading soloist was Harry L. Maxwell, the first initiate of Beta Beta Chapter. The quartette was scheduled for a Lafayette engagement on October 24, 1891, and it was the plan of those selected to install the Chapter to perform the ceremonies on the previous Saturday night, remaining over until Monday for the quartette concert. Upon arrival at Lafayette they learned that the president of the University could not be seen on that day to secure the necessary sanction for the entrance of Sigma Nu. Charles Jakes, Alvin Dorsett and Steta Takashima composed the installing team, and with Harry Maxwell made the best of the time in fellowship with their prospective fraternity brothers. The pending affiliation had not been made public, so the visitors kept their badges concealed while being shown about the campus.

On Monday afternoon, October 24, 1891, Beta Zeta Chapter was installed with five charter members, Charles Cottingham, Samuel E. Fouts, John S. Wright, A. Miller Belfield and James W. Noel. These five men had signed the petition. Others who had been pledged were initiated with them, but were not recorded as charter members. The ceremonies took place at the Lahr Hotel. The members of the new Chapter, with their Beta Beta Brothers as guests,

attended the DePauw Quartette concert that evening, their first public appearance, with colors and badges proudly displayed. Harry Maxwell, the leading member of the Quartette, wore his badge prominently, increasing the curiosity concerning the identity of the fraternity represented by the unfamiliar design.

In an account in *The Delta* Jakes reported having overheard a remark made by one of the leading professors that "every one is a ninety-five per cent man". He stated that the president had told him that they were the finest in the University. At that time, or during their careers at Purdue, honors held by





A. MILLER BELFIELD JAMES W. NOEL

Charter members of the Purdue Chapter, who became Vice Regents of Sigma Nu. From a group picture of Beta Zeta, 1891.

the five charter members of Beta Zeta included presidents of freshman and senior classes; vice president of junior class; presidents of both literary societies; president of the Purdue Scientific Society and of the Y. M. C. A.; vice president athletic association; managers of both football and baseball teams; associate editor on the *Exponent*, the student periodical; and associate editor and editor-in-chief of the *Debris*, the annual. Noel served as secretary to the president of Purdue during his senior year. In later years he became a member of the Board of Trustees of the University, and more than once was mentioned for the presidency of Purdue, the acceptance of which office he declined to consider.

The five members who were included in the original organization of Beta Zeta Chapter were George R. Ives, Edgar C. Deacon, Walter R. Sibley, Levin H. Warren and John F. Seiler. Dale Van Pelt was taken in soon after installation. A chapter house was rented at once, and in every way the beginning of Beta Zeta was most auspicious. Its early history was consistent with the caliber

of its charter members. The early members of the Chapter co-ordinated intimately with the work of the general Fraternity, two of the charter members, Noel and Belfield, serving as Vice Regents of Sigma Nu. Beginning with the first Grand Chapter after its founding, Beta Zeta men were prominent in convention activities, the fact having been observed so frequently that it became traditional. More Beta Zeta alumni have served as Grand Officers and Inspectors than the total of any other Chapter. Sigma Nu was late in entering the State of Indiana, but to a great extent made up for this delay by being one of the first fraternities to enter Purdue.

The marvelous success of Sigma Nu after Harrington started the Fraternity on its northern quest was due to such foresight, courage and decision as was demonstrated in the acceptance of this opportunity to enter Purdue. Faith founded on convictions that did not countenance false ideals of so-called exclusive fraternities was the guiding star of Sigma Nu in its northern and western advance. Undeluded by fictitious standards and undaunted by misgivings that caused others to hesitate, Harrington pursued his policy of western expansion with bold and determined purpose to the end that Sigma Nu became a pioneer in the far-western field. In this conquest Harrington's unfailing aid was Carl Lane Clemans, founder of Chi Chapter at Cornell College. Clemans had acquired an unusual sense of loyalty to Sigma Nu in his fight to maintain Chi's existence. In intimate association with Harrington, attended by several personal meetings, he had caught the spirit of Harrington's crusade, and he did more than any other member of the Sigma Nu to carry it to successful realization.

Early in the fall of 1891 Clemans decided to join the great number of students journeying to California for the inauguration of Leland Stanford, Jr., University. On his way he visited Harrington at Hiawatha, Kansas, and was urged by him to undertake the establishment of a Chapter at the new University. The opening of this widely-heralded project was the most notable occasion in the history of higher educational development of that era. Senator Leland Stanford, who had amassed a great fortune by building an overland railroad, had spent years in the planning of this memorial following the death of his only son, thus finding distraction from his great grief. A special act was passed by the California legislature permitting the conveyance to trustees of vast lands for the endowment of the University. The total value of his endowment was estimated above $15,000,000. Included was the magnificent Stanford estate at Palo Alto, a ranch containing seventy-three hundred acres, located in the very heart of the rich Santa Clara Valley. A hundred-acre tract in this estate was selected for the site of the University.

When Leland Stanford University was opened to students in the fall of 1891 the situation was unlike the beginning of most colleges and universities. Massive and stately buildings with halls, class rooms, laboratories, libraries, museums, gymnasiums and dormitories, fully equipped, were surrounded by landscaped lawns and flowering gardens. A faculty selected with care, consistent with the efficient plans of the founder, met a student body of about six hundred matriculates, sufficient to constitute at once large classes in all stages of



CHARTER MEMBERS AND EARLY INITIATES OF BETA CHI

Group picture taken on the campus of Stanford University. Left to right, top row—Rose, Calhoun, Downing, Rosenfeld, Jack, Webster; middle row—T. Crothers, Clemans, W. Crothers, Wilson; bottom row—G. Crothers. Harelson, Smith, Sheehan.

a four-year course. The student personnel, which had been drawn largely from colleges and universities in every section of the country, was advanced in experience, corresponding with the general status of completeness attending the start of Leland Stanford University. Athletics, class organizations, periodicals, literary societies and, very naturally, politics engaged student interest and rivalry at once.

Fraternities did not await the opening of the University to begin their activities. Badges of almost every Greek-letter society were in evidence prior to inaugural matriculation. Zeta Psi, which had strangely broken away from its early Eastern restraint and had established the first Chapter of a fraternity at the University of California, duplicated the record at Stanford, having had a group of five charter members in readiness to function coincident with the opening of the new University. Three days later the Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi from the University of the Pacific at San Jose, California, moved bodily to Palo Alto, having withdrawn from its original location after a controversy with the faculty. Two days after the Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi arrived on the scene Clemans had his Sigma Nu prospectives organized, making three fraternity groups in the field the first week. Phi Delta Theta, Sigma Chi and Alpha Tau Omega entered during the fall term. Contingents of almost all the national fraternities were active on the campus during the opening months, but their official entries are recorded at later dates.

Clemans met his first convert en route to the coast, James F. Wilson, a student from the State of Illinois. Finding him a congenial traveling companion and unattached. Clemans invited Wilson to join him in the organization of a Chapter of Sigma Nu. Three brothers from San Jose, Thomas G., George E. and William H. Crothers, were selected as promising material, and all agreed to join. They suggested William L. Webster, a senior from San Jose, who had attended the University of the Pacific. George Crothers brought Lewis H. Smith, a fellow freshman, into the fold. Smith introduced Francis J. Jack, an old Illinois friend, who joined. Headed by Clemans, this group of eight charter members became Beta Chi Chapter of Sigma Nu, the name in compliment to the original Sigma Nu affiliation of Clemans at Chi Chapter. Petition for a charter was telegraphed to Harrington, necessary time to secure approval from other High Council members delaying the reply until November 17, 1891, from which date Beta Chi Chapter is officially reckoned.

Early in the political turmoil of student elections there developed rivalry between coalitions, one representing San Francisco and the northern section of the State, the other allying San Jose with the southern part of California. The Zeta Psi Chapter, supporting the former element, found a stronger contender in Phi Kappa Psi with its seasoned Chapter from San Jose, which included several seniors. Phi Kappa Psi made the human error of overplaying its advantage, however, creating a combination against its control and losing much of the influence with which it started. Both these fraternities and others which entered Stanford early had strong alumni backing, most of them having maintained Chapters for years at the University of California. In Carl Lane Clemans, Sigma Nu had a master political mind, trained in *sub rosa* tactics as

well as experienced in open warfare, with native ability as an organizer.

In the large freshman class George Crothers was the leader of the San Jose faction. Crothers had had unusual experience as a high school class officer, having served as president of all four classes throughout his high school course. He was a Grand Officer of Gamma Eta Kappa, an influential high school fraternity. In both connections he had acquired ability as a leader, which was recognized by his being elected the first president of a freshman class at Stanford. Within two months influential leaders of the opposing San Francisco



STANFORD'S FIRST FOOTBALL TEAM
1. Carl Lane Clemans, Chi-Beta Chi, captain; 2, Paul M. Downing, Beta Chi, captain the third year; 3, John F. Sheehan, Beta Chi; 4, Max L. Rosenfeld, Beta Chi.

faction of the freshman class, Max L. Rosenfeld and John F. Sheehan, were added to the roll of Beta Chi. On the same night Scott Calhoun, of Tacoma, Washington, another popular freshman, was initiated. These recruits from the north, with the four San Jose boys, gave Sigma Nu strong influence in both sectional camps. As a result of this balance Sigma Nu had a powerful political influence at Stanford from the beginning, for several years maintaining high rank in every line of student activity. George Crothers, Wilson and Sheehan, of the first-year Chapter, served as class officers. Webster was the first president of the Associated Students of Stanford. With the publications Wilson, Sheehan and Calhoun served as editors on the *Daily Palo Alto*. Wilson was editor on *Sequoia*, the monthly. Editor-in-chief of *Sequoia* was one of the honors won by Walter M. Rose, initiate of Beta Chi's first year and one of the Chapter's famous alumni, later an author of law books, and celebrated as Editor of "Rose's Notes to the United States Supreme Court Decisions". Rose was a scholastic leader of this first-year group. The three Crothers boys and Wilson also attained excellence in this primary aim, which was not neglected by the other members.

In athletics Sigma Nu's early leadership at Stanford became a tradition of the University. Clemans was the greatest football star on the University's first

team, of which he was captain. In the initial game against the University of California, played at San Francisco, Clemans won his first laurels, the San Francisco *Chronicle* thus describing his burst to fame:

"All at once a sturdy Stanfordite was seen to break out of the bunch with the ball in his arms, and to be making his way around the end of the line. The man with the ball was Clemans, Stanford's sturdy left half back. There were half a dozen bulky Berkeleyites hanging round his neck, and he was finally



BETA CHI'S FIRST CHAPTER HOUSE
Famous abode of the Stanford Chapter, where athletic notables foregathered during early years of the University's existence.

pulled off his feet. Every once in a while the redoubtable Clemans would get hold of the leather and make another break round the end. Finally, Clemans made a great run through the line, toppling two men over as he ran, and made a touchdown south of the goal."

Celebrating this first victory of what became a historic rivalry, the students sang that night:

"Then shout the grand old Stanford yell, we've sent her through the goal!
Berkeley's line looked solid, but Clemans found the hole.
See the rush, the scrimmage, then the tackle and the roll.
While we are shouting for glory!"

Wilson followed Clemans as captain of the Stanford eleven, then Paul Downing, second-year initiate of Beta Chi, became the third successive Sigma Nu football captain at Palo Alto. Sheehan and William H. Harelson, a member taken in during the second year, also filled Varsity football positions. On Stanford's baseball team, for three successive years, Harelson, Sheehan and Calhoun played the outfield positions. Rea E. Maynard, second-year initiate, be-

came manager of football. David E. Brown, also taken in during the second year, became manager of baseball, captain of the track team, and for several years was the champion miler of California. The Sigma Nu Chapter house, isolated from other dwellings, adjoined the athletic field, and was for several years an athletic social center shared by Walter Camp, Stanford's first football coach, and other famous coaches who succeeded him. This house was built on the campus for Sigma Nu. It was located on a projected street that had not been opened, and was enjoyed all the more because of its isolated position.

The early success of Beta Chi was sustained throughout the four years of the class of '95, the class that came in as freshmen when Stanford opened. As often has occurred in the careers of other Chapters, there was retrogression after triumph. Upperclassmen gave more attention to winning honors than to supervising freshmen, and some of the freshmen passed out with these graduates. At this time, Francis V. Keesling, initiated in 1894, assumed the leadership of Beta Chi and guided it through a serious crisis. Along with four years of notable service in behalf of his Chapter, Keesling gained distinction in the student body. He was president of his freshman class, managed the baseball team, won election to several honor societies, became editor-in-chief of *Quad*, the Stanford annual, and ranked high in scholarship. After graduation, Keesling associated himself in the practice of law at San Francisco with Thomas and George Crothers. During the first year of this connection, he was selected to campaign for a constitutional amendment permitting the exemption from taxation of properties of Stanford University. This was successful, and resulted in the estimated saving of $250,000 annually, and in the correction of certain defects in the founding grants. As a result of interest in this matter, George Crothers became an intimate friend of Mrs. Stanford, and was influential in accomplishing many things for the University. He was the first alumnus to be elected to the Board of Trustees. Keesling's interest in Sigma Nu broadened to national channels, years of loyal and valuable service culminating in his election to the regency.



FRANCIS V. KEESLING,
BETA CHI
Enthusiastic member of the Stanford Chapter, whose zealous work for Sigma Nu marked him for the highest office in the Fraternity.

The fame of Sigma Nu at Stanford spread to Berkeley soon after Beta Chi was organized. The University of California, established there in 1868, had opened to fraternities soon after its beginning, Zeta Psi placing the first Chapter there in 1870. Phi Delta Theta entered in 1873; Chi Phi in 1875; Delta Kappa Epsilon in 1876; Beta Theta Pi in 1879; Phi Gamma Delta and Sigma

Chi in 1886. During the next six years, several attempts were made to establish other fraternities, the opposition of the existent organizations contributing to the failures. It was contended by those already established at Berkeley that there was not room for more Greeks. The University had continued growing, however, and the field was abundantly promising. After Sigma Nu successfully overcame Hellenic opposition, other fraternities followed, and the University of California became one of the most popular fraternity centers in the country.

Contact with leading students at Berkeley was made through Max Rosenfeld, one of Beta Chi's popular San Francisco members. Arrangements were made by him for Clemans to go to Berkeley to confer with Myron Wolf and Maurice V. Samuels, sophomore students with a recognized following at the University of California. This meeting resulted in an agreement to start a Chapter of Sigma Nu at Berkeley. Myron Wolf had been vice president of his freshman class, and was then president of the University of California sophomores. Later he was manager of baseball and business manager of *Blue and Gold*, the annual. As a persuasive speaker, he was a force; as an organizer, he was a genius. His personality was one of his most powerful assets. Maurice Samuels was a striking complement in this inceptive combination from which Beta Psi developed. His fraternal instincts cemented the foundations of material strength which developed under the direction of Myron Wolf. Together they had no difficulty in winning a well-balanced group of associates, representing the most desirable element of the student body. Included in the honors won by those whom they selected were class offices; presidency of the Y. M. C. A.; presidency of the Student Congress; and editorial positions on the *Occident*, on the *Berkeleyan* and on the *Blue and Gold*.

The name of Beta Psi was given this second California Chapter to signify the contiguity of the two in dates of establishment, in location, and in relationship to Clemans, their common founder. A resumption of the regular order of the Greek alphabet, departed from in naming Beta Chi, would have conflicted with the sequence of their establishment. The installation of Beta Psi took place February 20, 1892, and was attended by the entire collegiate membership of Beta Chi Chapter. The ceremonies were conducted in San Francisco in the billiard room of the elegant home of Col. E. A. Denicke, father of one of the charter members. Tradition persists in telling that one of Myron Wolf's footprints left evidence on the ceiling of side-degrees administered by "Pop" Clemans and his Stanford Sigma Nus. Any such testimony of the proceedings was destroyed when the Denicke residence was burned in the San Francisco fire of 1906. A banquet was served in the large dining hall of the Denicke home after the installation of Beta Psi, and the fellowship and spirit inspired on that occasion had much to do with starting the new Chapter on a successful career.

Fourteen charter members were recorded on Beta Psi's roll. Besides Myron Wolf and Maurice V. Samuels they were Albert B. Webster, Arthur C. Turner, George H. Boke, Arthur H. Mau, Albert H. Sylvester, John E. Strachan, Frederick Denicke, Chester H. Woolsey, Milo S. Baker, Marvin Curtis, Philip W. Tompkins and John S. Partridge. A chapter house was rented immediately after the installation, an unpretentious place, but serving the need for the time.

The other fraternities were generally lacking in *entente cordiale*, but this attitude only challenged the loyalty of the charter members, and strengthened their determination to succeed. Every man but one returned in the fall of 1892. Webster and Partridge had been graduated, but came back for higher degrees. Difficulties continued, but the spirit of the Chapter prevailed, and the



CARL LANE CLEMANS, CHI-BETA CHI
Founder of Chapters of Sigma Nu at Cornell College, Iowa; Leland Stanford University; and the University of California.

faith of the early members never languished. Prestige came to Beta Psi through processes of persistent effort and sacrifice—a merited possession, not a fancied prerogative. When it came, it was appreciated, and it remained a permanent asset in which early members felt great pride.

Myron Wolf extended his fraternity service to alumni years, becoming Inspector of the Division embracing the State of California. His talents that

made for the early success of Beta Psi brought him fame at the time of the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906, Wolf's organizing ability having then been devoted in the public behalf. Maurice Samuels attained renown as a playwright, sustaining his fraternity spirit in the ranks of the New York Alumni Chapter. Sharing the credit of these two organizers, Marvin Curtis was one of the most energetic and enthusiastic workers for the welfare of Beta Psi Chapter. He contributed consistent service not only during his collegiate career, but as an alumnus he continued demonstration of his interest and loyalty, with results that were beneficial to both California Chapters. The most distinguished of the charter members of Beta Psi was John S. Partridge. In the University "Jack" Partridge gave evidence of his ability by completing a four-year course in three years, ranking among the three highest honor graduates. He became a Federal Judge in California.



JOHN S. PARTRIDGE, BETA PSI
Charter member of the University of California Chapter, first Grand Chapter delegate from Beta Psi, one of the Chapter's most distinguished alumni.

The influence of the founding of the two California Chapters was far-reaching. The pioneering policy of Harrington was proven to be both possible and practical. It was with warranted pride that he commented in *The Delta* on these successful conquests:

"Twelve months ago the thought that Sigma Nu would have two flourishing Chapters on the Pacific Coast before the end of the year would not have been believed, but determination, energy and zeal have accomplished the happy result. Our Chapters now span the continent, and the fraternal ties that bind reach from the rising of the sun upon New Haven's elms to the going down thereof behind the Golden Gate."

The compass of this span was indeed impressive; but on the Chapter map of the Fraternity it marked more obviously the vast northern territory barely touched by Sigma Nu. The significance of far-western extension was momentous. No less commanding were developments which followed the founding of Beta Chi and Beta Psi—the establishment of two new Chapters in the very center of Greek-letter fraternity activity. From the first of these Chapters came a leader whose contribution was vital in the culmination of the Bennett-Harrington extension program in the central states. From the other came one who proved their claim that the way to the East was through the West.

CHAPTER XXI

The Highway of Progress

ON the admission of Indiana to statehood in 1816, a township was set aside by the Government "for the use of a seminary of learning". Four years later a State Seminary was established on that reservation. In 1828 this institution became Indiana College, from which date is reckoned the founding of Indiana University at Bloomington. The early history of the institution involved controversy over its control by the Methodist and Presbyterian denominations. Although the University was non-sectarian in character, the issue was fought over when either denomination seemed to be gaining an advantage. Finally, in 1837, the Methodists established a separate seat of learning in a nearby county, the genesis of DePauw University. This division of forces, intent on developing higher education in the State, seriously handicapped the early success of Indiana University. In 1881, half a century after its establishment, the attendance was only about one hundred and fifty students.

Despite varied misfortune and consequent limited enrollment at the University, fraternities flourished during most of this period of impotence. The impetus behind their activity was the bitter rivalry begun at Miami University, and carried over the border to even more vicious antagonism in the State of Indiana. Beta Theta Pi placed a Chapter at Indiana University in 1845, six years after the founding of that fraternity at Miami University. In the order of their birth, Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Chi, the other components of the Miami Triad, followed in 1849 and in 1858. Phi Kappa Psi entered in 1869; Delta Tau Delta in 1870; and Phi Gamma Delta in 1871. Kappa Sigma attempted to establish a Chapter in 1887, but passed out the next year. In prewar relationships, and for a score of years after the Civil War, every form of fraternity craft and piracy was practiced by Greek-letter rivals at Indiana University. "Lifting" of members seemed for a time the greatest ambition of the fraternities. Secession by an entire Chapter was plotted at one time. Purloining rituals and secret records was by-play. Copies of such stolen documents were sent to other places to embarrass rivals elsewhere by exposure of their secrets. Such conditions were corrected gradually by the increased attendance that relieved the dearth of fraternity material.

The two literary societies at Indiana University were strangled into subordination to the purposes of fraternities, through the political hold maintained by the Greeks. As a result, the Independent Literary Society was formed by a group of nonfraternity students, and attained a position of respect and usefulness. Resorting to their usual tactics, different fraternities bid prominent members of this third literary society, but failed in this way to disassociate its

leaders, a bond of fellowship, which could not be severed, having arisen among some of the foremost members. Their attitude had not been antagonistic to fraternities, and very naturally there developed a desire to perpetuate their friendship and to profit by membership in a national organization. In this decision they received encouragement and assistance from the president of the University. Sigma Nu was selected as their choice, and a petition to the Fraternity, supported by the Chapters at DePauw and Purdue, received favorable action. Charles Cottingham, Commander of the Purdue Chapter, was delegated by Grand Recorder Harrington to install the Chapter, which he did on April 14, 1892. He was assisted by A. Miller Belfield, another Beta Zeta member, and by Alvin Dorsett, Charles Jakes and Harry Gladden, of the DePauw Chapter.

The new Chapter was designated Beta Eta, the regular order of naming having been resumed after deviating in naming the California Chapters. The charter members were Herman J. Gaertner, Frank B. Kepner, Charles C. Krauskopf, Albert H. Yoder, Frank O. Beck and Hiram C. Sampson. Their scholastic bent is indicated by the fact that all were graduated from the University, three of them pursuing attainment until they received Masters' degrees. Gaertner was a senior when the Chapter was organized. He had persistently declined fraternity affiliation until this plan to unite with intimates in a common Brotherhood was worked out. Kepner, Krauskopf and Yoder were juniors. Kepner became president of the class of 1893, and Yoder was valedictorian at its commencement. These four associates had the preliminary plans formulated when they invited Beck, a sophomore, and Sampson, a freshman, thus completing immediate representation in all four classes. The four organizers were matured in experience, and had made records which at once assured their success in the undertaking. Beck added to the group a natural talent and enthusiasm for fraternity work, and Sampson demonstrated qualifications which led to a very prosperous business career.

The attitude of the other Greeks at Indiana University was very cordial toward the newcomers. Sigma Chi offered the use of its hall for the installation, which courtesy was accepted. Intimate relationships had existed between members of Beta Theta Pi and charter members of Beta Eta. This friendliness was extended to the entire Chapter and continued for several years, according to the Beta's chapter historian, notwithstanding the fact that in the fall after its installation Sigma Chi took two men whom the Betas wanted. Beta Eta Chapter was admitted at once to the Panhellenic organization, without having requested the privilege. The sororities also joined in bestowal of favor, representatives from Kappa Alpha Theta and Kappa Kappa Gamma attending and delivering toasts at the banquet on the evening of the Chapter's inauguration.

"The hours of the evening were whiled away in games and conversation, and all went merry as a marriage bell until the great hour of the night," a local newspaper reported.

Beta Eta Chapter rented a house soon after its installation, the first fraternity house at Indiana University, the others having occupied halls up to that

time. The auspicious beginning was a forecast of the second year's success. Together with the honors of the presidency of the senior class, which Kepner held, and Yoder's election as valedictorian, Sampson was that year vice president and Kepner was recording secretary of the Y. M. C. A. All the members belonged to the "Y", and its Puritanical regulations of that period generally governed the conduct of the Chapter. Meetings were always opened with singing, closing with prayer and "Blest Be the Tie that Binds." The only inharmonious incident of the second year was trouble with one of the members who smoked. The same idealism that characterized the beginning of Beta Beta was evidenced by Beta Eta but with somewhat more patience than was displayed during the early years of the DePauw Chapter. Beta Zeta at Purdue, although a little more liberal, also was controlled by ideals of this nature. When the Indiana State Association of Sigma Nu was organized in 1893, a resolution was adopted requesting that all persons attending meetings refrain from the use of liquor or tobacco during sessions, at banquets and at executive committee meetings.



GEORGE M. COOK, BETA ETA
Aggressive leader of the Indiana University Chapter, whose labors for the upbuilding of Sigma Nu culminated in the regency.

The third year of Beta Eta Chapter brought a crisis. Four of the charter members had been graduated. Sampson and two of the previous year's initiates were prevented from returning, due to financial conditions caused by the panic of 1893. Frank O. Beck, the only charter member remaining, was chiefly responsible for saving the Chapter that year. Two of the four members initiated the year before returned, an affiliate from Beta Zeta transferred to Indiana University, and during the year a total of six members were added. The chapter house had to be abandoned, but rooms were rented that year in Beck's home, and under his leadership Beta Eta overcame its difficulties.

That the Chapter relaxed somewhat in its severe moral regulations is indicated by the knowledge that, during the year 1894-95, card-playing was indulged in by at least part of the members. They still sought the more Puritanic type of men, however, delegating one of their members in the fall rush of 1895 to borrow a crokinole board to entertain a prospect who was opposed to card-playing. The decoy succeeded, and thus one George M. Cook was led into Beta Eta Chapter, and its future was made secure. Cook brought his Chapter and helped bring his Fraternity into much prominence in later activities, which culminated in his election to the regency, but which was not terminated in that connec-

tion. For more than a quarter of a century the welfare of Beta Eta Chapter was the first concern of his bachelor life. Cook's service also embraced two important Chapter foundings, and made Beta Eta noted as one of the generating agencies of Sigma Nu growth.

Establishment of the second Ohio Chapter, which proved to be a most prolific source of extension, was accomplished during the middle of the summer of 1892, three months after the installation of Beta Eta at Indiana University. In some respects the circumstances surrounding the origin of these two Chapters were similar. In neither case was there a preliminary organization. Both groups, without conscious effort, formed associations which became recognized for such potential strength that the presidents of the respective institutions en-

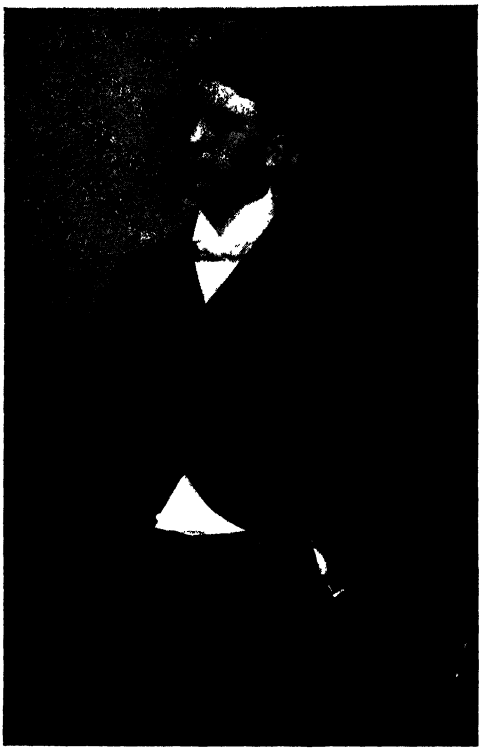


CHAPMAN HALL, MOUNT UNION COLLEGE
Main building of Mount Union College as it appeared in 1892, when Beta Iota Chapter was established there.

couraged them to affiliate with a national fraternity. In both instances, this official favor was given unsolicited. At Mount Union College, it was primarily responsible for the establishment of the Chapter of Sigma Nu.

Mount Union College had its origin in a private "select school" started in a very small way at Alliance, Ohio, in 1846. Out of this, in 1849, grew Mount Union Seminary, which was granted a charter as Mount Union College in 1858. Its location, two miles from the business section of Alliance, is in the ideal environment of a suburb of the same name as the College. It is under the control of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Delta Tau Delta placed a Chapter at Mount Union College in 1875, which became extinct in 1884. Alpha Tau Omega entered in 1882, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1885. Rivalry between these two fraternities reached such proportions that their political machinations became a source of bitterness and intriguery, and a menace to the student activities they sought to control.

The president of Mount Union College, a member of an Eastern fraternity, conceiving the idea that a third fraternity might alleviate the situation, proposed to a group of unorganized leaders that they petition for a charter of some national fraternity. The suggestion was favorably received, and after considering fraternities recommended to them, Sigma Nu was selected as their preference. The president of the College took the initiative in the matter by writing Grand Recorder Harrington of the prospect and referring him to the likely petitioners. Mount Union College at that time had about one hundred and fifty students of collegiate rank. A new building was in course of construction, and increased endowment gave forecast of general prosperity. The field appealed to Harrington, and negotiations were begun with the prospective petitioners through Hugh E. Marsh, one of their number. The resultant petition received prompt approval by the High Council, and Walter J. Sears, founder of Beta Nu at Ohio State University, was authorized to install the Chapter. Hugh Marsh was selected as spokesman for the group which greeted their Brother-elect when he arrived for the installation.



WALTER JAMES SEARS, NU-BETA NU
Founder of Chapters at Ohio State University and Mount Union College. From a photograph taken about 1892.

There was no difficulty experienced in identifying Walter Sears when this chivalrous ambassador stepped from his train at the Alliance station. This gallant young collegian was dignity personified, arrayed in a cut-away coat, his Sigma Nu badge boldly displayed on its lapel—a pompous, graceful, courtly knight, as proud as he was picturesque. Awed for the moment by first sight of a Sigma Nu badge, and by the magnificence of its wearer, Hugh Marsh found voice to introduce himself and his associates. Whatever diffidence he may have felt in the approach was at once dispelled by the handshake and the brotherly greeting he received. Fate never threw together two fellows with more responsive affinity than these two young men, whose fraternal instincts infused a strain of brotherly spirit into a Chapter that marked it as unique.

The installation ceremonies were held at the G. A. R. hall in Alliance, where

on the evening of July 22, 1892, the following charter members were initiated by Walter J. Sears, instituting Beta Iota Chapter of Sigma Nu: Edmund L. Nicholson, William L. Crumbaugh, Horatio S. Dumbauld, Joseph E. Antram, Percy G. Maple, Harman H. McQuilkin, George L. Guichard, Ross S. Taylor and Hugh E. Marsh. The impressive interpretation of the secret work, as rendered by Sears, and the ideas and ideals he expressed and expounded, were so feelingly set forth that a profound and lasting influence was fixed in the minds and hearts of the new members. The spirit of Walter Sears thus became a dominating element in the life of Beta Iota Chapter.



FOUNDER AND CHARTER MEMBERS OF BETA IOTA
Standing—George L. Guichard; Horatio S. Dumbauld; William L. Crumbaugh; Joseph E. Antram; Edmund L. Nicholson; Ross S. Taylor.
Seated—Hugh E. Marsh; Walter J. Sears, Nu-Beta Nu, founder; Harman H. McQuilkin; Percy G. Maple.

Sears remained two days at Alliance in order to see the new Chapter through its "coming out", the prospect having been kept from public knowledge. Emboldened by his presence, and stimulated by pride in his august appearance, the new Greeks made their debut upon the campus with courage and complacence. Their confidence was somewhat unsettled by the fact that members of the other fraternities seemed to ignore the colors they had donned, and did not offer congratulations. This slight was made more irritating when Sears was observed in company with several of these seemingly discourteous rivals. Explanation of this strange conduct was violently revealed to them that night at the college gymnasium, where Sears decoyed them to a Panhellenic initiation he had

arranged. Sears was responsible for the feigned attitude of contempt which their fellow-Greeks had shown during the day. Having experienced the unfriendly attitude of the interfraternity league at Ohio State University, Sears determined to insure Beta Iota against such a reception as Beta Nu had been accorded. The occasion was entered into with hilarity and abandon that produced a spirit of harmony, voiced at the close of the mock initiation by representatives from each fraternity. Again Sears won devoted admiration from his new Brothers, when his speech was voted greatly superior to those of the leading orators of their rivals.

Beta Iota began its organized existence in a small room rented in the home of one of the members. Nicholson was first Commander. Seven of the charter members returned to begin the first college year, and five new members were initiated during the fall term. In social activities, Beta Iota entered very slowly, but securely made its way. In politics, the advice of Sears to remain free from fixed alliances was heeded, and became a consistent policy of the Chapter. Fraternally, Beta Iota continued to build upon the foundation laid at its installation, until its framework was united by brotherly ties that made its building secure. Hugh Marsh remained the chief architect of this fraternal temple, for many years returning at the opening of College to assist in getting desirable pledges. Two future Regents of Sigma Nu were among those who felt the influence of his brotherly spirit.

Competition for new members was very keen at Mount Union. Lacking connections of those fraternities longer established there, Sigma Nu was at some disadvantage during the early years, but never yielded a man until he wore some rival's colors. In the fall of 1895, one of the most-sought freshmen was generally conceded to be destined to follow a blood brother into one of the other fraternities. The Sigma Nus kept up the conquest, however, and whenever possible had a man in the company of the popular prospect. One evening after gymnasium class, this freshman and his Sigma Nu consort, who had been the last to finish dressing, were rudely rebuked with an oath and a command to get out. This order came from a student in charge of closing up the building, a member of the fraternity having kin advantage in the contest for this freshman. Later that evening, Hugh Marsh made one of his frequent calls at the room of the prospect whose sense of decency had been affronted. As if by accident, Marsh left behind a copy of *The Delta*. It was read from cover to cover that night. It served to alleviate the rankled feelings of the reader, and touched his fraternal spirit with such appeal that his choice of fraternities came spontaneously, from heart impulse. Thus was Albert Hughes Wilson won for Sigma Nu.

As soon as he was initiated, "Bert" Wilson began his notable career of fraternity activity by prospecting for the next year's pledges. His first service to Sigma Nu was timely, for in the fall of 1896 only seven of the twenty members of the previous year returned. Due greatly to Wilson's labors, twelve new members were added, and the collegiate roll of Beta Iota was quickly returned to normal complement. Included in this group of initiates was Walter Edward

Myers, who shared with Wilson the glory of bringing the honor of the regency to Beta Iota. It was a remarkable record for a Chapter, in successive years to contribute members who attained the highest recognition in the gift of the Fraternity. In other ways, Beta Iota won unusual distinction. Of most consequence in the Chapter's renown is its contribution to the expansion of the Fraternity. Beta Iota, more than any other Chapter, is responsible for the growth of the Fraternity in the East, where Wilson, with no less faith and courage, matched Harrington's conquest of the West.

The achievements of the Fraternity in a two-year period, ending with the founding of Beta Iota in the summer of 1892, were celebrated in a significant gathering of Sigma Nus at the Sixth Grand Chapter, held at the Southern Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri, August 9-10, 1892. Not only in Sigma Nu history, but in general fraternity annals was the meeting noteworthy, since it was the second time that a convention of a Greek-letter society had been held west of the Mississippi River. By virtue of Harrington's policy, and with the aid of his enterprising ally, Carl Lane Clemans, Sigma Nu had become the most representative fraternity in the rapidly developing western field. The attendance at this Grand Chapter was strikingly indicative of the Fraternity's growing strength in that direction. Carl Lane Clemans was present as a proxy representative of Beta Psi Chapter, University of California. James F. Wilson, whom Clemans met while en route to enter Leland Stanford University, was the delegate from the other California Chapter. The Chapters at the University of Kansas and at the University of Missouri contributed largely to the attendance and to the success of this Grand Chapter. Regent Perlee Rawson Bennett presided, and with Grand Recorder Harrington constituted the High Council representation, assuring continued dominance of the policies which they advocated.



ALBERT HUGHES WILSON,
BETA IOTA

Collegiate picture of one of Sigma Nu's most prodigious workers, one of two early members of the Mount Union Chapter elected Regent of the Fraternity.

Harrington's report showed that during the two-year period between conventions, twelve new Chapters had been added, and three had been revived. The States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and California had been entered, making a total of sixteen States where Sigma Nu had Chapters. A total of thirty-four Chapters were reported as active at that time. Four hundred and forty-one new members had been added during the year, making a roll of thirteen hundred and seventy-one living members. Regent Bennett's report glowed with

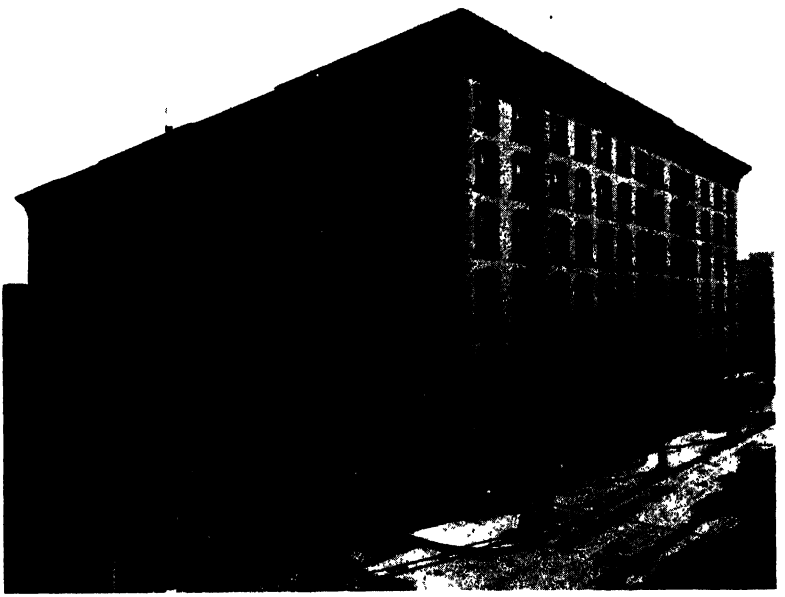


SIXTH GRAND CHAPTER, ST. LOUIS, MO., AUGUST 9-10, 1892

1, Frederick W. Shelley, Upsilon; 2, Dane S. Dunlop, Beta Beta; 3, Frank P. Stubbs, Phi; 4, James E. Goodrich, Rho; 5, Samuel M. Simmons, Nu; 6, Frederick W. Niedermeyer, Rho; 7, James F. Wilson, Beta Chi; 8, Whitlaw V. Draffen, Rho; 9, Carl Lane Clemans, Chi-Beta Chi; 10, Edward A. Blount, Upsilon; 11, Burr Ferguson, Theta; 12, John E. Bishop, Rho; 13, Clarence H. Sears, Nu; 14, Regent Rawson Bennett, Nu; 15, John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma; 16, Francis McCord, Alpha; 17, Grand Recorder Grant W. Harrington, Nu; 18, Harry C. Leonard, Beta Zeta; 19, Robert L. McCulloch, Rho; 20, Charles Cottingham, Beta Zeta; 21, Orville M. Barnett, Rho; 22, Emile Thomas, Rho; 23, Thomas F. Booker, Zeta; 24, Clarence E. Woods, Zeta.

optimism resultant from this showing, and pointed out with pride that the revenue statutes worked out by him at the Chattanooga Grand Chapter had brought the beginning of system into the financial affairs of the Fraternity.

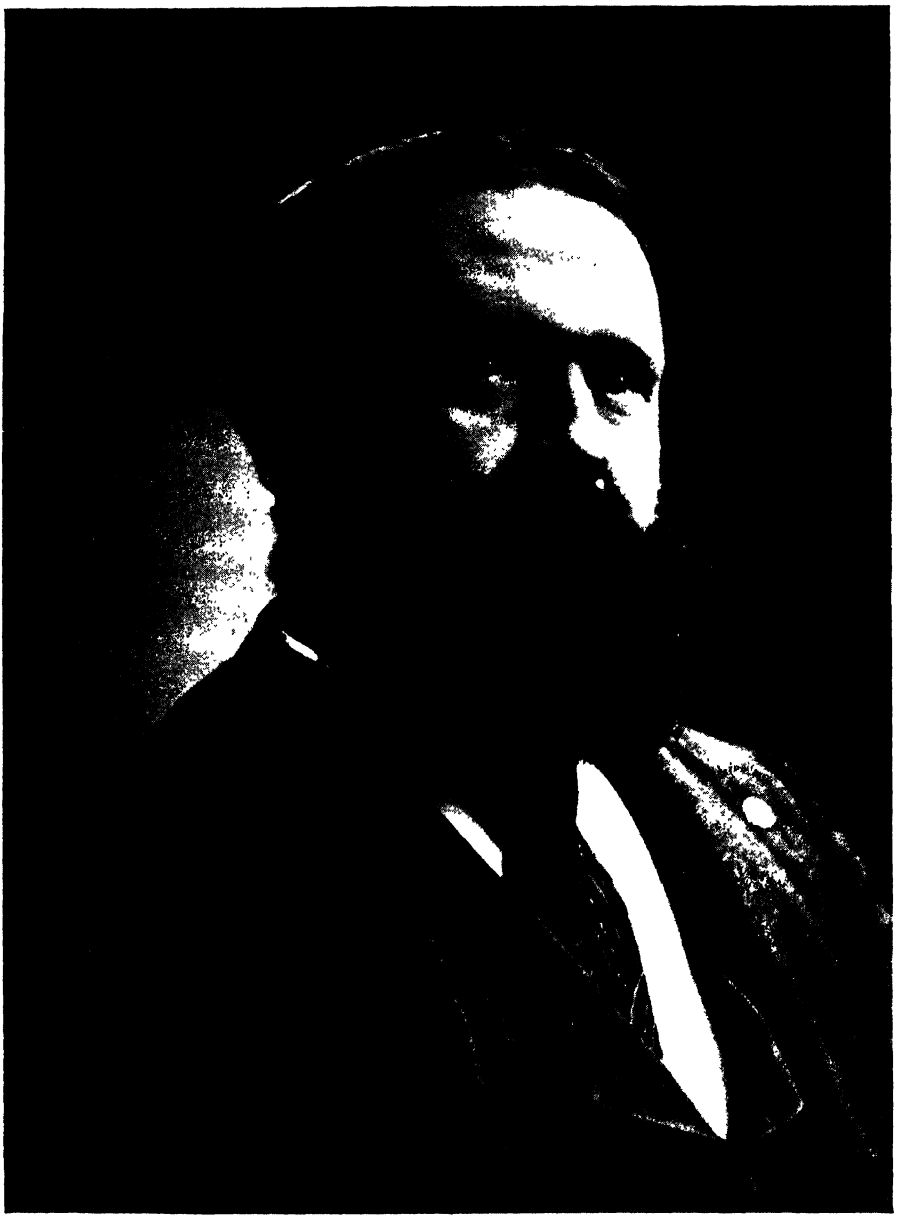
The matter of continued extension was given much consideration by the delegates at the Sixth Grand Chapter. A petition from the Southwest Kansas College, Winfield, Kansas, was granted. A petition from Central College, Fayette, Missouri, was referred to the incoming High Council for action. A dispensation was granted to Charles Cottingham, charter member of the Purdue Chapter, authorizing him to initiate prospects preliminary to placing a



SOUTHERN HOTEL, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
Meeting place of the Sixth Grand Chapter, August 9-10, 1892, the second Convention of a college fraternity to be held west of the Mississippi River. The Eighth Grand Chapter, 1896, also met there.

Chapter at the University of Chicago. A similar dispensation to Ernest C. Wheeler, of Chi, Cornell College, anticipated a Chapter at the University of Iowa. The extension committee presented a national survey of desirable places for new Chapters. Several recommendations were made, but without definite prospects no further action was taken.

The Fraternity yell, the flower and a flag were officially adopted at this St. Louis Grand Chapter in 1892. The committee selected to draft a yell considered several which had been used locally by Chapters. From the Sigma Nu yell composed by George P. Whitsett, Rho, and used by that Chapter at the University of Missouri, were taken the two lines:



PERLEE RAWSON BENNETT, NU

Grand Recorder, 1885-1888; Regent, 1890-1894. Master Ritualist of Sigma Nu, for many years a dominant leader in Grand Chapter proceedings.



THE ORIGIN OF SIGMA NU'S YELL

"Hi Rickety Whoopty Doo,
What's the matter with Sigma Nu?"

From the yell of one of the Georgia Chapters was taken the third line:

"Hullabaloo, Terragahoo!"

From a Sigma Nu yell used by the California Chapters was proposed as the concluding line:

"Ex Conspectu, Sigma Nu!"

This was later changed by substitution of the officially adopted form:

"Ausgezeichnet, Sigma Nu."

The original draft of the yell, showing this alteration, is reproduced. It was preserved by Frederick W. Niedermeyer, of Rho Chapter, who was one of the popular Missourians responsible for the spirit of good-fellowship that featured the Sixth Grand Chapter.



THE WHITE ROSE

The White Rose, selected as the official flower of Sigma Nu, was suggested by John Carmichael, Jr., Lambda, Washington and Lee, in a letter to Harrington some time previous to the meeting of the Sixth Grand Chapter. John Carmichael, Jr., son of a beloved contemporary of the Founders, was the first son of a Sigma Nu to be initiated into the Fraternity. He had repeatedly urged the adoption of an official flower and a flag. Although not at this convention, he shares the credit for action following his suggestions.

The design for an official flag followed one made under direction of members of Rho Chapter, who assisted in convention arrangements. The resolution adopting an official flag described it as follows:

"A flag of five stripes, with a union of black, upon the union to be a five-armed white cross, with a center of black, containing a monogram, Sigma Nu, in gold."

A sixteen-foot flag, made similar to this description, floated over the Southern Hotel during the two days that the Sixth Grand Chapter was in session there.



JAMES E. GOODRICH, RHO
GRAND TREASURER, 1892-1894

Popular member of the University of Missouri Chapter, who attained prominence in judicial and financial affairs in the State of Missouri.

The question whether or not to admit honorary members, generally a practice of fraternities at that time, was considered and decided against, consistent with the policy that had previously governed. The question of barring the use of wine at the Grand Chapter banquet was raised by Dane Dunlop, of Beta Beta, DePauw, who gave notice that he would not attend unless wine was prohibited. As a result, Sigma Nu was the first Fraternity to put a ban upon the use of intoxicating beverages at its official banquets. The rule instituted at this Grand Chapter became a law and a much treasured tradition, since it inaugurated a reform later adopted by other fraternities. Much credit for this innovation at the Sixth Grand Chapter banquet was given to Edwin B. Parker, Upsilon alumnus, who was principally in charge of convention arrangements. Parker, whose loyalty and initiative saved the University of Texas Chapter soon after its founding, and who later became a resident of St. Louis, was hailed by the delegates at the Sixth Grand Chapter as a real leader, and was elected Vice Regent of the Fraternity. Bennett was re-



EDWIN B. PARKER, UPSILON
VICE REGENT, 1892-1894

Distinguished member of the University of Texas Chapter in 1892, who rose to high rank in the Nation's affairs, and became renowned as an authority on international law.

elected Regent. Harrington was again made Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta.* James E. Goodrich, of Rho, was elected Grand Treasurer. The Fraternity was redivided, and the following Division Inspectors were named: I, Victor H. Boyden, Psi; II, Thomas M. Owen, Theta; III, Clarence E. Woods, Zeta; IV, Charles J. Martin, Beta Epsilon; V, Herman H. Davis, Pi; VI, James H. Butner, Mu; VII, Charles Jakes, Beta Beta; VIII, E. Myron Wolf, Beta Psi.

The Chapter at Southwest Kansas College, authorized by the Sixth Grand Chapter, was organized September 6, 1892, by Alvah J. Graham, of Nu Chapter, University of Kansas. Southwest Kansas College was established at Winfield, in 1886, by the Methodist Episcopal Church Conference of that section. Alvah J. Graham, initiated at Nu Chapter in 1885, transferred to the College at Winfield, where he resided, and was graduated there in 1889. He entered the practice of law at Winfield, and as the College increased in attendance he believed it would be advantageous for Sigma Nu to enter. The effort was made without consulting the faculty, and proved to be contrary to very decided ideas they had in regard to fraternities.

Eight students were initiated by Graham as charter members of Beta Kappa Chapter. They were Elmer O. Creighton, Edward T. Hackney, James W. Curry, Oscar J. Fryar, Joseph C. Gilmer, Lawrence W. Cole, Samuel E. Boys and Fred R. Ellis. This group included the presidents of the senior, sophomore and freshman classes; presidents of both literary societies; the editors of the two College publications; and winners of two scholarship prizes. The Chapter ran *sub rosa* until late in February, 1893, just before the faculty passed a ruling prohibiting fraternities. Anticipating this action, the eight charter members and three initiates made their public appearance before the decree was announced, hoping that their high individual standing would create sentiment in their favor, and strengthen their position. They received the sympathetic support of the student body, and part of the faculty privately upheld them. But the president, whose animus had a personal tinge, dominated the situation. The members of Sigma Nu were called before the faculty and were given notice that they must cease fraternity activity or suffer expulsion from the College. The Chapter decided to abide by the letter of the ruling, but to continue their organization by initiating between terms and during summer vacation.

Alvah Graham fitted up a hall for the Chapter, which he let them use rent free, and there the members informally maintained their fraternity associations. Graham was mayor of Winfield, and by entertainment of the Sigma Nus at his home gave them prominent social position in the community. For more than two years, he supported the Chapter in its fight for existence, conducting practically all its correspondence with the Grand Recorder, and collecting and remitting dues to the general Fraternity. Faculty opposition never relaxed, and finally the situation was brought to a crisis by charges threatening expulsions from the College. Most of the members agreed to meet this ultimatum with equal resolution, and before the faculty demonstrated its sincerity in the threat, the Chapter proved its spirit by withdrawing from the College, in a body entering St. John's College, a Lutheran institution at Winfield. They took with them the *Collegian* publication, the staff of which was composed of Sigma Nus,

and informally and unofficially they continued their chapter organization at the neighboring College. Out of sympathy, about one-third of the students followed the members of Sigma Nu and enrolled in St. John's College. A two-column statement in a local newspaper declared that opposition had started because a student, closely related to the administration, had not been approved for membership. This public statement challenged opponents to deny the fact that the Chapter was composed of the best class of students, and that it had been anything but a benefit and a credit to the College. No initiations were legally possible after the Chapter withdrew from its place of founding, and Beta Kappa became extinct when the last of its members were graduated from St. John's College in 1897.

Some of the members who participated in this spectacular withdrawal did not remain long at St. John's College, but continued their studies at other places. Nu Chapter profited greatly by this defection, a total of five members of Beta Kappa becoming students at the University of Kansas, where they affiliated with Nu Chapter. Without exception they became honored graduates of the University. Sigma Chapter at Vanderbilt also acquired an affiliate from this group. The Fraternity gained two new Chapters through the breaking-up of Beta Kappa. Samuel E. Boys and Gerard T. Smith entered Albion College, Albion, Michigan, where they established a Chapter of Sigma Nu. George W. Smith attended the University of Colorado, where he assisted in the founding of a Chapter. The granting of the Beta Kappa charter had been influenced greatly by the character of members it promised. In its abbreviated career the Chapter manifestly fulfilled the claims of its founder in this respect.

The fraternity situation at Central College, Fayette, Missouri, which the Sixth Grand Chapter left to the High Council to consider, presented peculiar circumstances affecting the Chapter of Sigma Nu organized there in the fall of 1892. This College was established in 1857 under control of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Phi Delta Theta placed a Chapter there in 1876, which antifraternity law put out of commission within two years. At the beginning of the college year 1892-93, conditions seemed more favorable for fraternities, and groups seeking official recognition were organized by alumni of Phi Delta Theta, Chi Phi and Sigma Nu. Under the leadership of a tolerant president the faculty agreed to experiment by permitting two fraternities to enter. The Sigma Nu petitioners were eliminated by the rule which governed. Unwilling to yield their ambition the petitioners pursued their aim as a *sub rosa* organization, and succeeded in winning a charter from the High Council for the establishment of Beta Lambda Chapter.

Julian H. Pearson, charter member of Rho Chapter, University of Missouri, and a resident of Fayette where Central College was located, was the founder of Beta Lambda Chapter. Assisted by Orville M. Barnett, also of Rho, Pearson installed the new Chapter on October 12, 1892, initiating the following charter members: Wesley P. McMurry, Charles B. Floyd, Emmett S. Ballard, Robert E. Austin, Louis B. Ballard, John H. Proctor and William R. Godbey. A hall was rented at once. During the next three months the Chapter established itself

securely, gaining several honor students, and otherwise attaining merit. In the meantime, the other groups of petitioners failed in their efforts, and the Chapter of Sigma Nu was given official recognition. This victory was celebrated on January 23, 1893, by a "coming out" banquet, which in attendance and oratory was one of the most successful affairs of the kind that had been attempted by a Chapter of Sigma Nu. The president of the College, Vice Regent Parker and Grand Treasurer Goodrich were present. Six members of Rho and two from Beta Gamma represented the other Missouri Chapters.

This auspicious event stimulated the fraternal spirit of the members of Beta Lambda Chapter, whose loyalty had already been intensified by early reverses, and their devotion to Sigma Nu became marked. Unfortunately, there was not the necessary rivalry at Central College to sustain a militant chapter spirit. Several futile attempts were made by groups to secure charters from other fraternities. Beta Lambda Chapter realized its need of a rival, and encouraged these efforts of fellow students. For a time, a branch of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Chapter of the University of Missouri operated under a special dispensation granted by that fraternity. This Chapter was composed largely of ministerial students, a group with splendid moral tone, but not lacking in sportive instincts, judged by the fact that through some harmless pranks they provoked a revival of active opposition to fraternities. This resulted in a renewal of the faculty ban, the withdrawal of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon dispensation, and the return of Beta Lambda Chapter to *sub rosa* existence. Sigma Nu survived in this way for several years at Central College of Missouri. But the impetus given by contest with a revival organization was lost, and interest subsided. As in other places where a narrow policy ruled, Central College did not profit by its attitude toward fraternities, and it failed to achieve the prosperity promised when Sigma Nu entered. At the opening of the college year 1902-03, only two members of Beta Lambda Chapter returned to the College. They reported conditions generally unfavorable, and upon the advice of officers of the Fraternity they surrendered the charter.

The culminating development, concluding extension activities during the college year 1892-93, offset the two impermanent establishments that preceded, and proved that, although short-lived, these grants were not in vain. It was Harrington's contention that through the smaller institutions Sigma Nu could gain access to the larger universities, where difficulty had been experienced in obtaining entry. The University of Iowa, conspicuous in position among the growing institutions of higher learning in the West, had been an alluring objective in Harrington's program, somewhat forbidding, since it was realized that only strong leadership could insure the right kind of start for a Chapter there. The University of Iowa was founded in 1855 at Iowa City, formerly the state capital. Central Building, the most conspicuous on the campus, was originally the capitol building. During its first decade, the institution offered only preparatory and normal training, broadening into university departments in 1866. Fraternity life came with this development, Beta Theta Pi entering that year. Phi Kappa Psi followed in 1867; Phi Gamma Delta in 1873; Delta Tau Delta in 1880; and Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Chi in 1882.

During the college year 1892-93, Burtella N. Hendricks, of Beta Epsilon Chapter, Upper Iowa University, became disgusted with the narrow-minded policy which had put an end to Sigma Nu's existence there. Hendricks visited Iowa City and, being impressed with the difference in environment, decided to transfer to the University. Harrington learned of the fact, and urged Hendricks to try to establish Sigma Nu there, advising him of the dispensation granted by the St. Louis Grand Chapter, authorizing preliminary initiations for such purpose. Hendricks quickly accepted this responsibility, which promised him the pursuit of fraternity associations he so much appreciated. While the preliminary pledging was in progress, the embryo forces were augmented by the addition of Louis Block, a student at the University, who had been pledged to Sigma Nu by Delta Theta Chapter at Lombard College. Block brought some of his friends into the group, and contributed talents of a natural leader.



BURTELLA N. HENDRICKS,
BETA EPSILON-BETA MU
Founder of the Chapter at University of Iowa, where his fraternal instincts led him after an intolerant faculty had terminated Beta Epsilon's existence.

On May 10, 1893, Ernest C. Wheeler, of Chi Chapter, Cornell College, Iowa, to whom the dispensation to initiate University of Iowa students had been granted, went to Iowa City and initiated those who had been pledged. He was assisted by Morris A. Zollinger, also of Chi Chapter, who was attending the University, and who became one of the charter members of Beta Mu Chapter. Louis Block, Martin S. Walker, Edward S. White, Charles F. Clark, William C. Dewel, Fred W. Haynes and Alfred M. Van Allen were initiated on that date, the ceremonies taking place in the basement of the Unitarian Church. A banquet was held that evening at the St. James Hotel, Louis Block acting as toastmaster.

All the initiates and the two affiliates inaugurating Beta Mu Chapter were students in the law department. Block and Walker were seniors. Most of the members were active in the literary societies. Block had organized the Polygon Literary Society, and was its first president. Hendricks, White and Van Allen each served as president of the Irving Literary Society. Van Allen became president of his senior law class. White was on the editorial board of the *Quill*, was a member of both the football and track teams, and won the Holbrook essay prize. Dewel became editor-in-chief of *Hawkeye*, the annual. Lee W. Dean, first initiate after the organization of the Chapter, an outstanding scientific student of the University, became dean of the medical department.

For almost a year Beta Mu Chapter ran *sub rosa* with the belief that its strength could be better built up under cover. Louis Block served as Commander of the Chapter until commencement, when he and Walker were graduated. All the others returned to the University in the fall, when four initiates and two more affiliates from Chi were added. Meetings were held in the A. O. U. W. hall until sometime after the fall opening, when rooms near the campus were rented. The Chapter continued its initiations under the Grand Chapter dispensation until in February, 1894, when operation under a charter began. At that time its *sub rosa* existence ceased. Those enrolled as charter members of Beta Mu were B. N. Hendricks, Louis Block, Martin S. Walker, Edward S. White, Morris A. Zollinger, Charles F. Clark, William C. Dewel, Frederick W. Haynes, Alfred M. Van Allen, Burton E. Sweet, Lee W. Dean, Fred A. McMaster, Charles T. Brown, Roy A. Palmeter, George S. Gibbs, Charles W. Jones, Edwin B. Lodge, J. Don Kiser, Guilletti G. Davis, Channing E. Dakin and William R. Whiteis.

Beta Mu Chapter made its public appearance with eighteen members. Two of the charter members had been graduated and one had left the University. Careful selection and deliberate action had built up an organization which immediately placed Sigma Nu in a prominent position on the campus. Hendricks continued to serve the Chapter with the same loyalty which had led him to undertake its founding. His fraternity enthusiasm was matched by Charles W. Jones, one of the first initiates during the Chapter's year of *sub rosa* activity. Jones had inherent instinct for fraternity work, which later found expression in extensive service in the national councils of Sigma Nu. As an Inspector he gained distinction which resulted in his election as Vice Regent. Under his benevolent guidance Beta Mu continued consistent progress during its early years and became a bulwark of strength among the Chapters of Sigma Nu.



CHARLES W. JONES, BETA MU
Enthusiastic leader during early years of the University of Iowa Chapter, long active in promoting the welfare of the Fraternity, serving officially as Division Inspector and as Vice Regent.

The year 1894 marked the end of Harrington's official connection with the work of extension. It was fitting that the final development in the Western field during his administration should draw him into personal contact and into a position of prominence in the celebration attending the occasion. The event was the installation of Beta Xi Chapter, William Jewell College. This institution, under control of the Baptist Church, was established at Liberty,

Missouri, in 1849. It was named in honor of Dr. William Jewell, whose benefactions made possible its beginning. Phi Gamma Delta placed a Chapter there in 1886 and Kappa Alpha (S) entered the next year.

In the fall of 1892 a group of students organized a local known as the "Phe Yodhs", the Hebrew letters for "F. J.", those being the initial letters of the fraternity's motto. The local existed as such for a year. Their leader, Joseph E. Culver, became interested in Sigma Nu, which then had three active Chapters in Missouri. In the fall of 1893 Culver induced all but two of his fellow "Phe Yodhs" to join him in petitioning for a charter of Sigma Nu. The three Missouri Chapters gave approval and favorable action by the High Council followed. The installation of Beta Xi Chapter was held at the Coates House in Kansas City, Missouri, on January 6, 1894. The charter members initiated at the time were Benjamin F. Scaright, Joseph E. Culver, Walter F. Dean, James P. Dawson, Joseph W. Barley, Dudley B. Williams, Ralph Rhoades and Arthur B. Chamier. Grand Recorder Grant Harrington presided at the banquet which followed the installation ceremonies. Eight Chapters were represented, making the gathering significant of the growth of Sigma Nu in that territory.

The charter members of Beta Xi represented various activities of the College, but were especially prominent in athletics. Searight won a medal for being the best all-round athlete. He captained the football team and was a brilliant student. Culver and Dean played on both the football and baseball teams. Barley became captain and manager of football. Rhoades was on football, baseball and track teams. Williams was president of his literary society. Barley was orator at his commencement exercises. In scholarship their general average was high. Culver was their social and fraternal leader, and while he remained in the Chapter the members were not wanting in fraternity enthusiasm or social position.

All the charter members but one returned the second year, which was a prosperous one in every sense. Conditions were reversed at the opening of the year 1895-96. Only two members reported at the opening. They had been initiated only a short time and consequently lacked experience. The outlook was grave, but became brighter when Thomas B. Turnbaugh entered late. The burdens of a precarious situation fell on Turnbaugh and he proved himself equal to the emergency and loyal to the limit. He rented and furnished rooms and started a rushing season, which netted seven initiates that term and others during the year. Most of Turnbaugh's recruits remained to complete full college courses, and to him is given the credit for saving the Chapter and putting it on a basis for permanent prosperity.

Interfraternity relationships at William Jewell College were friendly, evidenced soon after the founding of Beta Xi by a banquet given the Sigma Nus by rival Greeks. This cordial spirit was strikingly manifest during a smallpox epidemic in 1900. Two members of Sigma Nu were stricken and the entire Chapter was quarantined in isolated tents. The other fraternities kept the refugees abundantly supplied with delicacies. After returning to the chapter house the Sigma Nus gave a feast to show their appreciation. Out of this occasion grew a Panhellenic Association at William Jewell College.

This spirit of concord proved fortunate during an antifraternity attack that developed later. The president and part of the faculty had passively opposed fraternities, and at one time agitation against the Greeks resulted in a stand taken by divinity students that membership in fraternities was incompatible with their position as theological students. The Chapter of one of the fraternities was temporarily disrupted by withdrawals and expulsions in this connection. In 1903 nearly a hundred students presented an ultimatum to the faculty demanding that fraternities be abolished, threatening to leave the College unless their demand was granted. Mass meetings were held and intense feeling developed. The fraternities met the attack successfully and were permitted to continue in operation. About forty students left the College, but with four hundred enrolled the institution was not embarrassed. Rivalry and opposition were sufficiently manifest during early years to create a strong chapter spirit in Beta Xi, which has been consistently maintained throughout its history.

Beta Xi was the thirteenth Chapter of Sigma Nu to be established west of the Mississippi River. In editorial comment on this development Harrington brought out the fact that, in number of Chapters, Sigma Nu had become the strongest fraternity in that Western territory. A table showing numerical Chapter strength of rivals west of the Mississippi River accompanied this comment. The first section of this table embraced Sigma Nu with the five other fraternities, which were pioneers in the Western field, the number of their trans-Mississippi Chapters at that time being as follows: Sigma Nu, thirteen; Phi Delta Theta, twelve; Beta Theta Pi, eight; Phi Gamma Delta, five; Phi Kappa Psi, four; Sigma Chi, four.

In view of the fact that prior to Harrington's administration Sigma Nu had been known only as a Southern Fraternity, it was with warranted pride that he justified his statement that Sigma Nu had been "lifted out of a sectional rut and placed on the highway to national progress".

CHAPTER XXII

The Light Breaks in the East

THE heroic position of Pi Chapter at Lehigh University during the decade of Western development ending with the college year 1893-94 stands out as one of the most prominent features in Sigma Nu history of that period. Except for the short-lived Chapter at Yale, which only nominally had been co-efficient, Pi Chapter for ten years stood alone in the East, loyally manifesting its faith in the Fraternity. This fidelity was maintained in an environment that naturally induced opinions contrary to a policy of western expansion. The fraternity situation at Lehigh was strongly affected by Eastern influence and the attitude of Pi Chapter was inclined toward the opinions of those fraternities confining extension almost exclusively to that section.

Although differing in this regard from those who believed that Sigma Nu should develop its national growth by first building strongly in the West, Pi Chapter continued unwavering in its loyalty to the Fraternity and consistently improved its position at Lehigh until it was reckoned in the front rank among fifteen national fraternities flourishing there. The high tide of this period of excellence came during the years 1892 to 1894. In that time members of Pi Chapter won honors in every branch of student activity and achieved high ranking in scholarship. The outstanding honor man was William S. Merrill, who represented Lehigh in the State Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest and who became editor-in-chief of *Brown and White*, the daily publication, which he and Alonzo L. Ware, another conspicuous leader of Pi Chapter, assisted in founding. Indicative of the character of fraternity material composing Pi Chapter at that time is the fact that four members embraced in a two-year period became Division Inspectors of Sigma Nu. They were Herman H. Davis, Alonzo L. Ware, Greenleaf H. Chasmar and Orrin S. Good. The culminating triumph in their joint fraternity service came in the spring of 1894, when Pi Chapter in a body installed Beta Rho Chapter at the University of Pennsylvania.

Fraternity life at this institution began while it was the Academy, located in the building previously occupied by the Charity School organized at Philadelphia in 1740, which circumstance makes the origin of the University of Pennsylvania traceable to that date. Delta Phi, the first fraternity to enter, was established there in 1849, followed by Zeta Psi the next year. In 1850 Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity was founded there. Delta Psi entered in 1854; Sigma Chi in 1875; Phi Kappa Psi, 1877; Beta Theta Pi and Phi Gamma Delta in 1880; Alpha Tau Omega, 1881; Chi Phi and Phi Delta Theta in 1883; Delta Upsilon, 1888; Psi Upsilon, 1891; and Kappa Sigma in 1892. During their careers up to this time, most of these organizations had experienced hectic

existence, common in most places where the influence of graduate and professional schools dominated university life. The exceptions were those groups established there prior to the Civil War, which, because of their strong local connections and social position, became known as "Philadelphia fraternities". The members of Pi Chapter, located less than sixty miles away, were familiar with conditions at the University of Pennsylvania and had been skeptical about previous proposals to place a Chapter there.

The contact which brought about the founding of Beta Rho Chapter in the spring of 1894 came through acquaintance between Elmer W. Mitchell, of Pi Chapter, and John Louis Sullivan, both residents of Fall River, Massachusetts. W. S. Merrill conducted the correspondence for Pi Chapter after Mitchell had interested Sullivan in the venture. Grant Harrington was in the East and



WILLIAM S. MERRILL HERMAN H. DAVIS ALONZO L. WARE

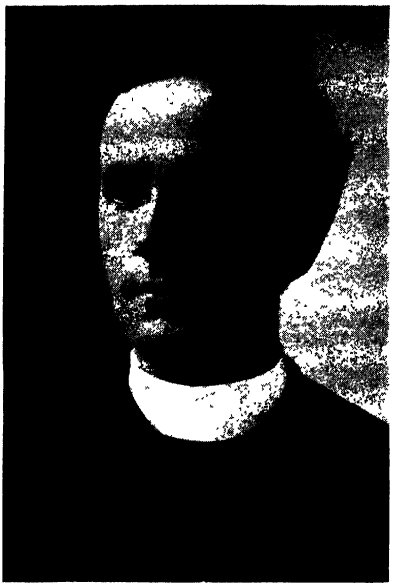
TRIO OF PI CHAPTER NOTABLES

Members of the Lehigh University Chapter who served as Division Inspectors, and who rendered vital service in strengthening Sigma Nu's position in the East.

visited Pi Chapter about the time negotiations were being concluded. At the request of the Lehigh Brothers he left entirely with them the investigation of the group which Sullivan had selected. The reason for this request, they tactfully stated, was that local conditions were peculiar as compared with those in the West and they feared Harrington "might make a miscue". The knowing Grand Recorder was conscious of their misgivings concerning a Sigma Nu from beyond the Mississippi River. Together with the fraternal courtesies they showed him Harrington enjoyed this evidence of their anxiety about his regard for social conventions, which concern was greatly alleviated when it was dis-

covered that his traveling wardrobe included a dress suit. In relating experiences of this visit to Pi Chapter, Harrington delighted in admitting that the evening clothes he wore at one of their social functions had been brought home by his brother, Wynne, a Sigma Nu at Stanford University, and that only once before had the Grand Recorder been arrayed in this formal attire.

Fraternity prestige at the University of Pennsylvania was at that time reckoned principally by social standing, influenced thus by the aspirations of the so-called "Philadelphia fraternities", traditionally regarded as leaders before the broader aims of Greek-letter societies created a different standard. Students prominent in activities other than social were not consistently represented in the membership of fraternities, and many leaders in athletics and in other lines of undergraduate activity were non-fraternity men. It was dictated by the desires of John Louis Sullivan that the associates whom he selected to join him in petitioning Sigma Nu should be primarily influenced in their acceptance by motives of friendship. It was the impulse of fraternal instinct, not the prompting of personal ambition, that induced Sullivan to agree quickly to the suggestion from his friend, Elmer Mitchell, that he undertake the formation of a Chapter of Sigma Nu at the University of Pennsylvania. Friendships already existing drew Sullivan toward a group of leaders in athletics and other campus activities, whose association in such efforts had created bonds of fellowship that lacked only organization to weld them into a fraternity. The fame of some of these men already had become nationally known in collegiate circles, and the approval of a petition bearing such names was readily given.



JOHN E. L. SULLIVAN, BETA RHO
His fraternal spirit was the generating influence in the founding of the University of Pennsylvania Chapter.

On April 14, 1894, Pi Chapter went to Philadelphia in a body for the installation of Beta Rho Chapter. Arrangements were in charge of Herman H. Davis, alumnus of Pi Chapter and Division Inspector. The ceremonies were conducted in rooms on the ground floor of a residence located at the intersection of Woodlawn Avenue, Walnut and Thirty-fourth Streets. Alonzo L. Ware, Commander of Pi Chapter, officiated, assisted by W. S. Merrill and Inspector Herman Davis. The seven charter members initiated at that time were John Louis Sullivan, Gerald P. Gallagher, Carl Mosberg, Thomas S. Reilly, John J. Reilly, Daniel G. Coogan and Jose P. Horcasitas. Mosberg, a resident of Berlin, Germany, the only senior, was made Commander for the short period before his graduation. Four associates in campus activities were

initiated into the Chapter before the close of the year. These initiates, all honor men, were Charles S. Jack, Alfred E. Bull, Edward A. Darby and Charles S. Gelbert. All the members except Mosberg returned in the fall of 1894. Sullivan was elected Commander, insuring a continuation of the successful conquest begun by Beta Rho in the beginning and for which achievement Sullivan was principally responsible. The Chapter roll was increased to thirteen by the initiation of William J. Goeckel, Alfred C. Petersen and Zane Grey.



CHARLES S. GELBERT, BETA RHO
An All-American star of first magnitude, membe of Sigma Nu's inaugural Chapter at University of Pennsylvania.

The records of these charter members and initiates reveal the conspicuous and influential position to which they elevated Sigma Nu on the campus as soon as the Chapter was established. In rowing circles Carl Mosberg held the distinction of being Admiral at the regatta in his senior year. Alfred Bull was captain of the crew one year and was stroke on the Varsity eight, which crew included Jack and Petersen. Petersen was captain of his freshman crew. Bull was also president of his class and was center on the undefeated University of Pennsylvania football team of that period. Gelbert played four years on the Varsity eleven and nationally was acknowledged as the best halfback in the game at that time. Darby was leader of the Glee and Banjo Club. Jack was a member of *Skull and Dagger*, the senior society which became the *Sphinx Society*, the most coveted undergraduate honor in the University, of which organization Jack was a charter member.



ALFRED E. BULL, BETA RHO
Famous center on a memorable Pennsylvania football team, a leader during the organization period of the University of Pennsylvania Chapter.

On the championship University of Pennsylvania baseball team of that time were four members of Sigma Nu, regarded later as among the famous alumni of the University of Pennsylvania. Pre-eminent on this team was Daniel Coogan, catcher, reputed then to be the best in the college game. He was consid-

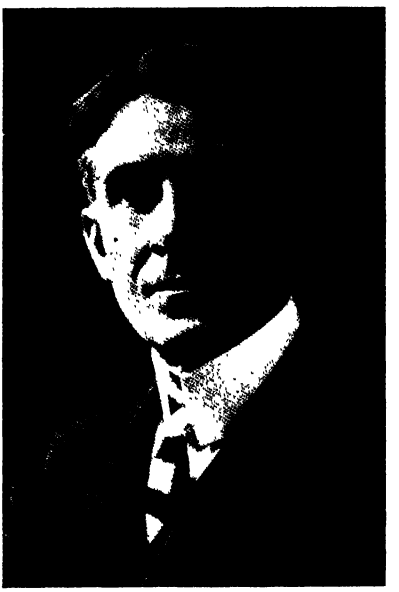
ered the most popular man in the University, which circumstance made him a great asset to the Chapter.

"To be a friend of Danny Coogan is one of the chief aims of the undergraduate," it was claimed, "while not to know him is to argue one's self unknown."

In after years Coogan, as coach of the University of Pennsylvania team, achieved renown and regard such as he had won as an undergraduate athlete. Gelbert duplicated his football record by playing four years on the baseball team. Goeckel, who played three years in baseball, won imperishable fame as the author of *Red and Blue*, Pennsylvania's well known field song. He was considered at that time the best first baseman in Penn-



DANIEL G. COOGAN, BETA RHO
Famous first baseman and coach of University of Pennsylvania, a charter member of Beta Rho Chapter.



ZANE GREY, BETA RHO
One of the celebrities of Sigma Nu's inaugural Chapter at University of Pennsylvania. He won first rank as an author of fiction.

sylvania's athletic history and was selected by the country's leading sports critic for the all-American team. The fourth member of this quartet of Sigma Nu baseball team-mates was a pitcher, Zane Grey, whose books of fiction later won him fortune and unrivaled popularity as a writer. In a story of his own life, "Breaking Through", published in the *American Magazine* for July, 1924, indication is given of the important influence commanded by Beta Rho Chapter during its first year of existence.

"Not until I achieved the Varsity baseball team did I have any acquaintance in college, let alone friends," wrote Zane Grey. "Then the bitter loneliness of my college days seemed to change. Danny Coogan, the great Varsity catcher,

made me a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity; Al Bull, the center on the famous football team that beat Yale and Princeton and Harvard, selected me for a room-mate."

It was in rooms occupied by Al Bull, Zane Grey and other members of Beta Rho that Chapter meetings were held. Informal gatherings were the rule, meetings at regular intervals having been found difficult to arrange because of the demands of the professional schools in which a majority of the members were matriculated. Participation in athletics and in other activities further denied many of the members opportunity to enjoy fraternal contact, except as delightfully experienced in their informal associations and in athletic relationships. Beta Rho began so near the top that its organization lacked the essentials of perpetuity and the sustaining inspiration acquired in fighting for position or privilege. Furthermore, in having the unselfish beneficences and untiring ministrations of John Louis Sullivan this immediate good fortune of the Chapter proved its undoing. When Sullivan failed to return to the University in the fall of 1895 Beta Rho became a functionless body, bereft of the mind that had conceived it and of the heart that had given it vitality; devoid of the spirit which had inspired its instant success and of the dynamic energy which for more than a year had maintained its official functions. For Sullivan—earnest, enthusiastic, willing without limit—had assumed all the obligations from the Commander's duties to the Reporter's responsibilities. The moral, printed in *The Delta*, signaled the fate of Beta Rho: "Let not one man do it all, for when he leaves all collapses."



WILLIAM J. GOECKEL, BETA RHO
Member of Sigma Nu's first Chapter at University of Pennsylvania, author of Pennsylvania's stirring field song, "Red and Blue," and celebrated nationally as an athlete.

The members returning for the college year 1895-96 were not apathetic in their attitude toward the Chapter's interests. A combination of circumstances conspired against concerted action to overcome the loss of their founder and benefactor. Primarily operating against continued activity of Beta Rho that year were the exactions of the professional courses in which all the members were then advanced students. Seriously affecting the situation was the fact that, having been formed almost entirely of honor men without a supporting element in the lower classes, there was no reserve from which the Chapter might draw its sustaining vitality. Furthermore, the members of Beta Rho had at its inception acquired such regard for the Chapter's honor standard that there was no disposition to initiate students from the lower classes who had not yet attained distinction. Consequently the Chapter, as an organization, was dormant during the college year 1895-96.

In January, 1897, Orrin Good, of Pi Chapter, and Charles Jack, the only



SEVENTH GRAND CHAPTER, INDIANAPOLIS, OCTOBER 9-11, 1894

1, Richards, Beta Zeta; 2, Niedermeyer, Rho; 3, Inspector Butner, Mu; 4, Duncan, Beta Beta; 5, Hamblin, Beta Iota; 6, Leonard, Beta Zeta; 7, Past Grand Treasurer Willis, Lambda; 8, Dunlop, Beta Beta; 9, Veatch, Beta Zeta; 10, Cassady, Beta Zeta; 11, Junk, Nu-Beta Nu; 12, Past Vice Regent Murphey, Lambda; 13 Grand Recorder Harrington, Nu; 14, Regent Rawson Bennett, Nu; 15, Russell, Beta Zeta; 16, Gebauer, Beta Eta; 17, Boatman, Zeta; 18, Grand Recorder-elect Woods, Zeta; 19, Inspector-elect Dawes, Rho; 20, Merrill, Pi; 21, Inspector-elect Clark, Delta Theta; 22, Warman, Beta Zeta; 23, Schultz, Beta Eta; 24, Wright, Beta Zeta; 25, Ives, Beta Zeta; 26, Russ, Beta Zeta; 27, Carr, Beta Beta; 28, Withers, Lambda; 29, Spahr, Beta Zeta; 30, Inspector-elect Bumgardner, Lambda; 31, Kennon, Beta Zeta; 32, Byrns, Beta Zeta; 33, Price, Beta Eta; 34, Vice Regent-elect Noel, Beta Zeta; 35, Kochersperger, Beta Zeta; 36, Troxwell, Nu; 37, Marsh, Beta Zeta.

undergraduate member remaining at the University, reorganized Beta Rho at a meeting attended by resident alumni from several Chapters. Benton E. Longwell, of Beta Chi, Stanford, who was taking advanced work at the University, enlisted as an affiliate of Beta Rho at that time. No initiations were made, however, and the effort instead of resulting in a revival proved the futility of attempting to operate with only postgraduate and professional students. Hence, Sigma Nu at the University of Pennsylvania became wholly inactive, leaving Pi at Lehigh again the sole Chapter surviving in the East. Beta Rho was the last Chapter founded during Grant Harrington's administration as Grand Recorder. Its fate served to vindicate his claim that extension in the large Eastern universities should await the development of strength more easily acquired in the growing institutions in the Middle West and in the virgin field beyond the Mississippi River.

The last notable official achievement of Harrington, while Grand Recorder, was the production of his second catalogue, which was published in March, 1894. This volume, consisting of three hundred and sixty-six pages, was prepared on the plan of the first catalogue, but with additional information in biographical sketches of members, which made the effort even more arduous than was the original undertaking. The value of these two volumes in creating respect among the members for their growing Fraternity is inconceivable. The worth of these two catalogues from an historical standpoint is incalculable. They represent virtually the whole of a quarter-century's historical records retrieved by Harrington from rapidly failing sources and preserved by him to become the foundation of future records and the basis of later research in Sigma Nu history.

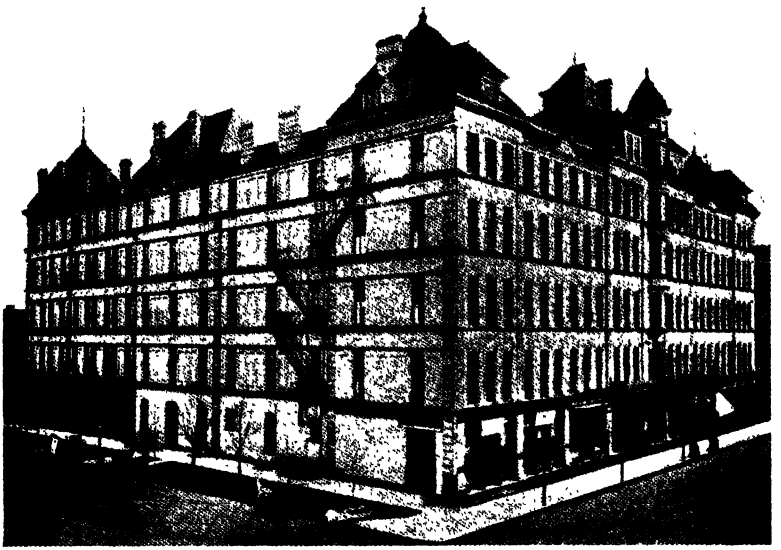
The Bennett-Harrington regime ended with the meeting of the Seventh Grand Chapter at the Denison Hotel in Indianapolis, October 9-11, 1894. Regent Bennett presided. Vice Regent Murphey and Grand Recorder Harrington were other members of the High Council in attendance. Division Inspectors present were Clarence E. Woods, Zeta, and James H. Butner, Mu. Twenty-one Collegiate Chapters were represented in person or by proxy. Among names registered which appear prominently elsewhere in the history of the Fraternity were J. Robert Boatman, Zeta; Bixby Willis and Rudolph Bumgardner, Lambda; Frederick W. Niedermeyer and Hamilton M. Dawes, Rho; William S. Merrill, Pi; Harry P. Junk, Nu-Beta Nu; Dane S. Dunlop, Beta Beta; James W. Noel, Beta Zeta; and James Alvin Clark, Delta Theta.

The report of Grand Recorder Harrington showed a membership of seventeen hundred and sixty, a net gain of three hundred and eighty-four members in two years. Regent Bennett made his report in an address upon the subject, "Our New Policy". A narrative review of the Fraternity's history was included, in which its course was set forth in philosophic spirit as a justification of the progressive policy of extension which had been pursued during Bennett's four years as Regent. His views, which had governed his official action during this period, were summarized in the following paragraphs:

"Yet I lay down the principle boldly, and I defy anyone having the real

advancement of the Fraternity at heart to controvert it, that any college which fairly and decently fits men for the Bachelor's degree, as usually understood, and where there is sufficient material not already appropriated by some other fraternity, is under proper conditions and at fitting season, worthy a charter of Sigma Nu.

"There I stand and there I stay. I care not for endowments; I care not for



DENISON HOTEL, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
The Seventh Grand Chapter met there in 1894; the Eleventh Grand Chapter, in 1902.

social prestige; I care not for scholastic fame—though all these must be considered and given their due weight. I first inquire, does the college under consideration attempt to give and succeed in giving its students the basis of a liberal education? I next ask, are the applicants manly men, and honest gentlemen, and are there enough of them now at hand and forthcoming to sustain a Chapter? Then, is it expedient as a matter of strategy to enter this college at this time? If these questions are answered in the affirmative, then I will vote to grant a charter with clear conscience. And when a Chapter is once established, I stand by it to the farthest limits of brotherhood, love and friendship."

The most important action taken at the Seventh Grand Chapter was the tentative adoption of Regent Bennett's revised and amplified Ritual. The method of granting new Chapters was changed, making negative votes by one-fourth of the Chapters in the Division from which a petition originated sufficient to defeat it, the provision requiring unanimous approval by the High Council having been retained. An appeal from an adverse High Council vote

was provided for through a referendum vote by all the Chapters in the Fraternity, favorable action by a majority of Chapters in each Division being necessary to grant a charter after such appeal. A dispensation to initiate students at the University of Chicago, preliminary to the establishment of a Chapter there, was granted to Clarence A. Torrey, of Chi Chapter, Cornell College. Upon the suggestion of Dane S. Dunlop, delegate from Beta Beta Chapter at DePauw, who had led the fight to have wine and liquor prohibited at the Sixth Grand Chapter banquet, Regent Bennett proposed a resolution which was adopted declaring this ban on wines and liquor at official functions the permanent policy of the Fraternity.

A Sigma Nu whistle was officially adopted at the Seventh Grand Chapter. It was composed by Clarence W. Murphey, of Lambda, twice Vice Regent of Sigma Nu, who at this convention, the fifth he had attended, made a new record for Grand Chapter attendance.

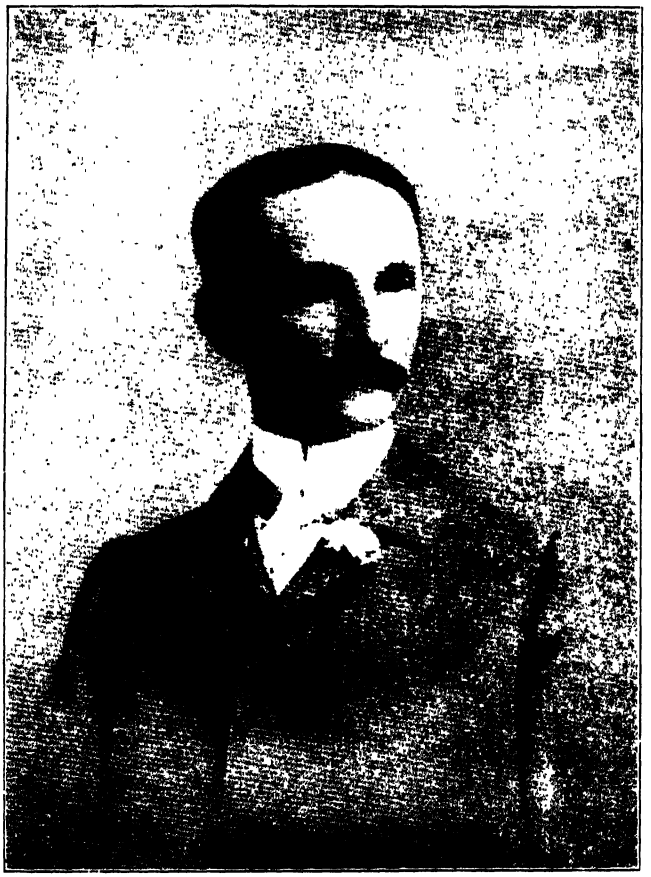


SIGMA NU WHISTLE
Official call of the Fraternity, adopted at the Seventh Grand Chapter in 1894.

Voting by proxy was abolished by action of the Seventh Grand Chapter, thus eliminating a political practice that had become a menace to harmony at conventions. The issue was forced at this Grand Chapter when a political combination was effected which aimed at the retirement of Grant Harrington from the office of Grand Recorder. The movement originated in the desire of an alumnus of Lambda Chapter to succeed Harrington. It gained strength from so-called conservative Chapters, which were opposed to the Bennett-Harrington policy of extension. One of the arguments of the opposition was based on the belief that Regent Bennett would again agree to re-election. It was argued as unfair that any Chapter should have two representatives on the High Council, as had been the situation during the joint official connection of Bennett and Harrington. When it was made apparent that the opposition by unwarranted personal attack had made Harrington's re-election impossible, the leaders of the old "Secret Anti-Secret Federation" again proved their skill at political maneuvering as they had done at the University of Kansas in the organization from which Nu Chapter originated.

Bennett did not desire a third term as Regent. To embarrass the seemingly selfish move responsible for opposition to Harrington these two allies framed a slate of their own, headed by the magic name of Isaac P. Robinson as their choice for Regent. Feeling confident of the plan to elect Robinson, they supported the majority sentiment that no Chapter should again have two members

on the High Council, thus causing this argument to react against the alumnus of Robinson's Chapter in whose behalf the contention had been aroused. Continuing their effort to insure a progressive High Council, the name of James W. Noel, alumnus of Beta Zeta, Purdue, was selected as their choice for Vice Regent. Noel had been a conspicuous figure at this Grand Chapter, having



ISAAC POITEVINT ROBINSON, LAMBDA
Founder of the Washington and Lee Chapter. Father of the First Cosvention of Sigma Nu. General Secretary, 1882-84. Twice elected Regent, serving four years, 1894-98.

employed his native talent as an investigator to disprove false claims against Harrington's official record. Carl Lane Clemans, founder of the Chapters at Cornell College, Stanford University and University of California, a staunch ally of Harrington, was his choice for Grand Treasurer. Completing their slate with a master stroke, Bennett and Harrington supported Clarence E. Woods, of Zeta Chapter, Central University, Kentucky, as their candidate to

succeed Harrington in the office of Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*. This slate prevailed without a break in the election of officers. Although the Bennett-Harrington administration was ended, the policies they had inaugurated were safely conserved in the personnel of the High Council members whom they had selected.

A redistricting of Divisions was the final action of the Seventh Grand Chapter, with the following Division Inspectors named: I, Rudolph Bumgardner, Lambda; II, Frederick A. Fulghum, Beta Theta; III, Lee J. Loventhal, Sigma; IV, Hamilton M. Dawes, Rho; V, Alonzo L. Ware, Pi; VI, Victor H. Crusselle, Xi; VII, James Alvin Clark, Delta Theta; VIII, E. Myron Wolf, Beta Psi.



CARL LANE CLEMANS,
CHI-BETA CHI
Grand Treasurer of Sigma Nu, 1894-96
Founder of Chapters at Cornell College, Stanford University and University of California, later the inspiration of Sigma Nu's conquest in the Northwest.



JAMES W. NOEL, BETA ZETA
Vice Regent of Sigma Nu, 1894-96
Charter member of the Purdue Chapter, who rose to high rank in the councils of the Fraternity.

The advent of Clarence E. Woods into the administrative councils of the Fraternity was a natural sequence in a career devoted in service to Sigma Nu from the date of his initiation at Zeta Chapter, Central University, on September 20, 1885. Clarence Woods, a thoroughbred of the Blue Grass region, was born at Lebanon, Kentucky, July 31, 1865, a son of Thomas C. Woods and Mary Ann Jackson. He received his high school education at Louisville and entered Central University in 1884. His journalistic talents were recognized by his work as manager of *Atlantis*, the University periodical. He entered professionally in newspaper work as founder and editor of the Lebanon, Kentucky, *Enterprise*. Later he became editor of the Richmond, Kentucky, *Register*, in which capacity he was connected at the time of his election as Grand Recorder

and Editor of *The Delta* of Sigma Nu. He served four years as mayor of Richmond, Kentucky. He became honored as a life member of the Kentucky Press Association.

Clarence Woods began his fraternity life with the same spirit that he lived it. Sigma Nu was not the strongest Greek-letter society at Central University when he joined. It is known that Woods was invited into two of the other five fraternities at Central, which locally and nationally were regarded as having prestige not then claimed by Sigma Nu. His choice was influenced by his desire to connect himself with the one which with congenial associates would give him the greater field for personal service. His boundless energy sought the opportunity which Sigma Nu offered, and for two years he gave himself heroically to the upbuilding of Zeta Chapter, which achieved many honors under his enthusiastic leadership. During the next two years, when Woods was away from Richmond, the Chapter suffered from loss of graduates through withdrawals from the University and from consequent general decline which threatened its existence. When he returned to Richmond for permanent residence in 1889 Woods revived Zeta Chapter and made it one of the most active and prominent in the work of the Fraternity. One of his first editorial expressions was a maxim of his success:

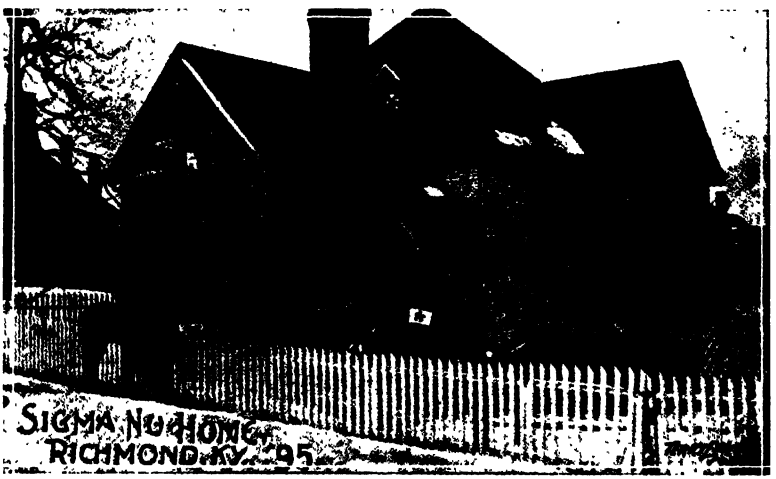


CLARENCE E. WOODS, ZETA
Elected Grand Recorder in 1894
Incomparable fraternity enthusiast, son of Sigma Nu's first Kentucky Chapter at Central University, wearing the diamond-set badge that with him became famous in the fraternity world.

"As soon as we try in earnest to brighten another's life, then we begin to understand the word Fraternity."

Clarence Woods through the inspiration of his example brought that understanding to countless numbers during twenty years' official service in Sigma Nu. Harrington nationalized the Fraternity, giving it courage and vision. It remained for Woods to unify its scattered Chapters; to harmonize sectional singularity; to strengthen the weak spots; to build new and lasting shrines; and to instill within the Chapters and members the fraternal spirit which inspired his service. His first issue of *The Delta*, featuring intimate personal sketches of those who attended the Seventh Grand Chapter, forecast the character of his conduct of fraternity affairs. His keen and quick powers of penetration and perception made him ready in judging human nature. His alert wit and resourceful intellect made him at ease in any situation. His generous impulses, his gracious manners, his affable disposition contributed to a fascinating personality that made Clarence Woods nationally recognized as the exemplification of fraternity spirit, the personification of brotherly love.

The establishment of a Chapter at the University of Chicago was the first important development after Woods assumed the duties of Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*. The genesis from which this Chapter resulted dated back to 1892, when Harrington, through Charles Cottingham, charter member of Beta Zeta, Purdue, started a movement to place a Chapter at the new University of Chicago. Clarence A. Torrey and Leonard A. Blue, alumni of Chi Chapter, Cornell College, Iowa, who were attending the University, enlisted as collegiate representatives of Sigma Nu and succeeded in gathering a group intent on securing a charter. At that time it was announced that temporarily, at least, fraternities would be forbidden to enter. Before this decision was reversed, two



ZETA'S CHAPTER HOUSE
Shrine of Sigma Nu in Kentucky during the early years of Clarence E. Woods' fraternity activity.

years later, Leonard Blue had completed his work at the University, leaving Clarence Torrey to join in the second effort, which was successful.

The University of Chicago, which first opened its doors to students in 1892, was established at the instance of members of the Baptist Church, replacing a University of the same name which had existed during the years 1857 to 1886, when through lack of funds it became extinct. This defunct institution also had been sponsored by the Baptist Church. Except in this regard there was no connection between the old and the new universities. The new University of Chicago received its site as a gift from Marshall Field and several of its buildings through contributions from other citizens of Chicago. Its principal endowment came through millions of dollars given by John D. Rockefeller.

Fraternities were active at the first University of Chicago during most of the years of its existence. Zeta Psi entered in 1864; Phi Kappa Psi and Phi Delta Theta in 1865; Beta Theta Pi in 1868; Psi Upsilon in 1869; and Delta Kappa Epsilon in 1871. Although the new University was entirely distinct from the

old institution, all these fraternities which later placed Chapters at the University of Chicago dated their establishment from the time of founding of their Chapters at the former University. When Sigma Nu entered at the beginning of the year 1895 Phi Kappa Psi, Beta Theta Pi and Delta Kappa Epsilon were the only fraternities existing. Hence, Sigma Nu was the fourth fraternity to establish a Chapter at the new University of Chicago.

When it was decided in 1894 that fraternities would be permitted to operate, Harrington was alert and proposed the dispensation which the Seventh Grand Chapter granted to Clarence Torrey. John P. Mentzer, another alumnus of Chi Chapter, Cornell College, and John M. Roberts, of Beta Gamma, Missouri Valley College, entered the University of Chicago in the fall of 1894. These three members met frequently, worked out the plans for a chapter and pledged seven students, who, with them, became the charter members of Beta Pi Chapter. In this effort the assistance of A. Miller Belfield, resident alumnus of Beta Zeta, Purdue, was invaluable. Belfield personally pledged part of the charter members and his enthusiasm and encouragement were vital factors in the founding of this Chapter.

The Greek-letter designation, Beta Pi, originally was set aside for a proposed Chapter at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. This Chapter was scheduled to antecede the establishment of Beta Rho at the University of Pennsylvania and was given the Greek-letter designation accordingly. A date had been selected for the installation of the Miami Chapter by Walter J. Sears, founder of Beta Nu at Ohio State University. Events transpiring about that time threatened the prosperity of Miami University, which was dependent upon State support. There was some doubt in official circles as to whether the State could continue to support both Ohio State University and Miami University. A bill introduced in the legislature that winter proposed making Miami a preparatory school. Concern over this situation caused reconsideration of the favorable action on the Miami petition, resulting in postponement of a final decision, which discouraged the petitioners and lost this opportunity to enter Miami University.

The installation of Beta Pi Chapter at the University of Chicago was conducted in rooms at the Great Northern Hotel on January 2, 1895. Alumni representing the Chapters at Lehigh, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, DePauw and Purdue assisted in the ceremonies, which were marked by most propitious circumstances. J. Robert Boatman, Chapter intimate of Clarence Woods, represented the Grand Recorder, initiating a career of prominence in the national affairs of the Fraternity. Beta Pi rented a house immediately after installation, and without difficulty increased its membership during the remainder of that college year. There were at that time one thousand students in the University of Chicago, about three hundred of whom were in the graduate school, two hundred in the divinity school and nearly five hundred in the several colleges.

Fraternity life experienced by Beta Pi Chapter at its beginning was colored by the affiliation of the two Chi alumni and John M. Roberts, of Beta Gamma, men from Chapters rich in history that embraced traditional practices and typical adventures of early fraternity times. As at Missouri Valley College, where John Roberts so copiously indulged a jocular and fraternal nature, a goat

figured prominently in the early initiations of Beta Pi Chapter. On one occasion an animal borrowed for an initiation was tied to a post in front of the Chapter house in order that the neophytes might be led to reflect upon what was in store for them. Some one cut the rope during the night, letting the goat free, and forcing the Chapter into a frantic search of the vicinity before the animal was returned to its grieving owner. At a later initiation, planned to take place on the exposed deck of a Spanish ship, sunken in a lagoon on the World's Columbian Exposition grounds, a goat being taken over in a row boat upset the convoy into the water. A fire in the attic of the Chapter house, caused by the use of phosphorus at an initiation, was another thrilling incident in the first months of the Chapter's existence.



J. ROBERT BOATMAN, ZETA
"Delegate at Large" in Sigma Nu, so named because of frequent attendance at sectional and national conventions.

The charter members and early initiates of Beta Pi Chapter were especially interested in literary and debating activities of the University. During the Chapter's inaugural year members held the offices of president in the Philolexian and Forum literary societies; president of the Debating Club; president, vice president and secretary-treasurer of the Oratorical Association; president and secretary-treasurer of the Oxford Club, and secretary-treasurer of the Assembly Club; manager and advertising editor of the *University Weekly;* and president of the Y. M. C. A. Two of the three representatives of the University in its oratorical contests were members of Sigma Nu. In athletics there were three members on the baseball team and one on the track team. Early in the second year of the Chapter's existence two of the eight representatives composing the Junior College Council were members of Sigma Nu, one of them holding the office of Chairman of the Council, which made him president of the Junior Colleges, the highest office that could be held by a student at the University of Chicago. With such achievement at its beginning there was great faith in the promise given in their first chapter letter:

"We intend pushing ahead, and to make Beta Pi not only a credit to the University of Chicago, but to our loved Sigma Nu."

The installation of Beta Tau Chapter at the North Carolina College of Agricultural and Mechanic Arts followed three months after the founding of Beta Pi Chapter. This development had for some time been sought by Psi Chapter, University of North Carolina, located only a few miles from Raleigh, where the

new Chapter was established. Psi Chapter was laboring under great disadvantage because of late entry into the fraternity field at the University, and the members felt that they could greatly counteract this handicap by pioneering at Raleigh, where sons of the best families in the State were being sent in increasing numbers. Frederick L. Carr, Commander of Psi Chapter during the college year 1894-95, conducted the correspondence which culminated in approval of their request for a charter at the neighboring institution.

North Carolina State College, as it became generally known, is situated on the summit of a hill in the beautifully wooded suburb of West Raleigh, about two miles from the capitol building. It was opened to students in October, 1889. In its sixth year, when Sigma Nu entered, there were two hundred and sixty-three students registered. Fraternities had not existed openly, but *sub rosa* contact had been maintained by three of the fraternities at the University.

Beta Tau Chapter was installed on the evening of April 16, 1895, by Victor H. Boyden, of Psi, former Inspector of that Division, assisted by several collegiate members of Psi Chapter, who accompanied the University Glee and Mandolin Club to Raleigh for its annual concert given the previous evening. The installation was conducted in a parlor at the Park Hotel. The charter members initiated on that occasion were Sydenham B. Alexander, Thomas W. Alexander, Thomas M. Ashe, William K. Davis, John Howard, Charles B. Holladay and Charles Pearson. Joel Whitaker, Frederick C. Lamb, William M. Baker and Rufus M. Gwyn were initiated soon after the installation and shared the organization period of the Chapter during the two remaining months of the spring term.

Six members returned to the College in the fall of 1895. Pearson and Ashe, who had completed their college work, entered business in Raleigh and remained active in the interests of the Chapter. Victor Boyden was stationed there in the revenue service, and in support of Beta Tau continued to indulge his long-loyal Sigma Nu spirit. The presence in Raleigh of these three faithful alumni proved the salvation of Beta Tau when faculty disfavor invoked a rule against fraternities, keeping the Chapter in *sub rosa* existence for several years. Twice during that period of subjection but one undergraduate member remained in the College. Resident alumni held offices in the Chapter and carried it through these critical years. Charles Pearson was the persistent enthusiast, whose unceasing effort bridged this trying period and saved Beta Tau from extinction that several times threatened.

During the college year 1900-01 the faculty learned the names of members of Sigma Nu then participating in *sub rosa* activity and summoned them to appear for a warning that further meetings or initiations would bring about expulsions. Although this did not crush the Chapter it greatly crippled its endeavor to continue *sub rosa* existence. In the fall of 1902 the fate of Beta Tau virtually rested with O. Max Gardner, a senior and one of the members whose fraternity connection had been exposed prior to the faculty ultimatum. In his advance to his senior year Gardner had acquired strong influence in

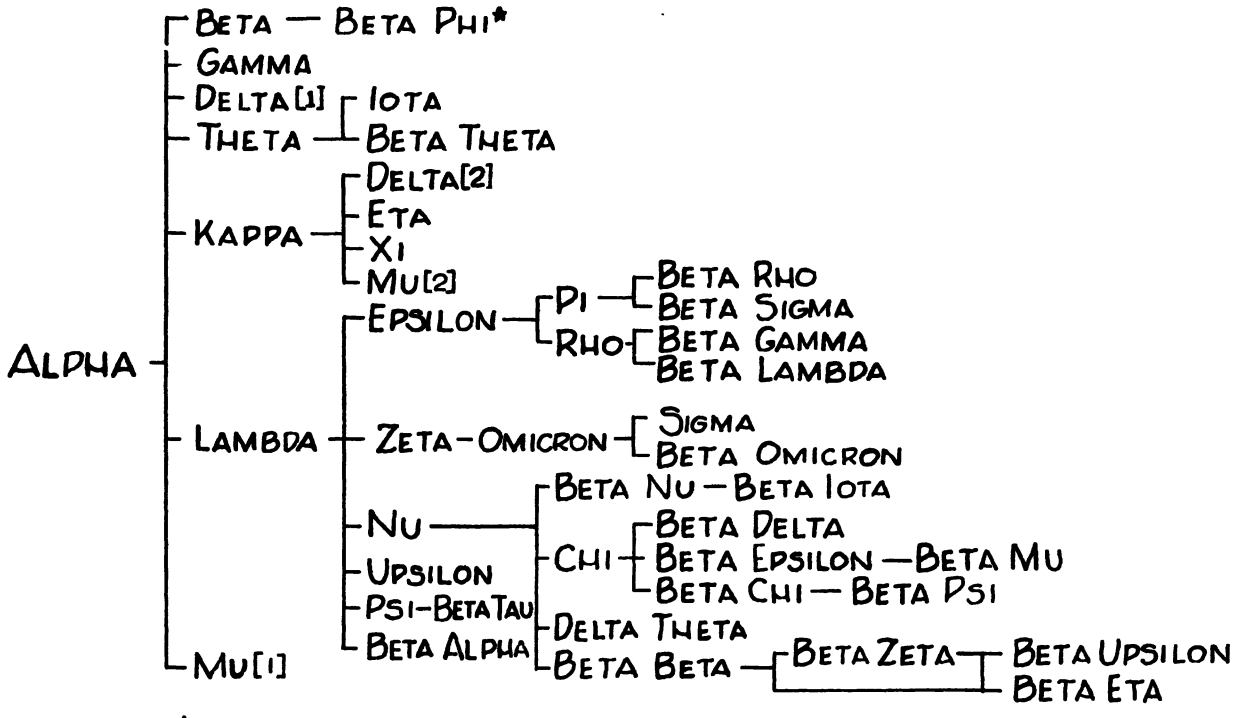
college affairs. He was captain of the football team three years and for two years was manager of baseball. He had political control in the student body and was highly regarded by the faculty. Through this wide influence he was greatly responsible for a reversal in the attitude of the college officials that resulted in their lifting the ban against fraternities during the year 1902-03. With the way opened by Sigma Nu, Kappa Alpha and Kappa Sigma entered immediately and others followed, creating at North Carolina State College a normal fraternity life which Beta Tau since has shared with a stimulating sense of pride over its part in the achievement. During several years in the capital city, serving in the legislature and as lieutenant governor of North Carolina, O. Max Gardner continued his interest in Beta Tau as a distinguished alumnus contributing to the prestige he had won for the Chapter during his college career.



O. MAX GARDNER, BETA TAU
Distinguished son of Sigma Nu's second North Carolina Chapter, an enthusiastic fraternity leader who won high position in affairs of his State.

Beta Upsilon Chapter at Rose Polytechnic Institute, Terre Haute, Indiana, was the second of a trio of new Chapters established within a period of less than five weeks in the spring of 1895. This institution, projected in 1874 upon the benefaction of Chauncey Rose, a wealthy railroad builder, was first opened to students in 1883. Courses were offered for the study of mechanical, electrical, civil, architectural and chemical engineering. The number of students was limited to two hundred, and in the severe process of elimination attending this limitation a very high scholastic standard has been maintained. Alpha Tau Omega placed a Chapter at Rose "Poly", as the institution is popularly known, in 1893, and until Sigma Nu entered two years later had only a local fraternity as a rival.

Howard Schurmann, Beta Zeta, Purdue, conceived the idea of the Chapter at Rose and became its founder. Schurmann had attended Rose before entering Purdue, and after his initiation into the Fraternity became eager to share its privileges with some of his former associates there. The Purdue Chapter delegated Henry B. Veatch to accompany Schurmann on a trip to investigate the situation, and upon their joint recommendation Beta Zeta approved the project. At the fourth annual meeting of the Indiana State Association held with Beta Eta at Bloomington on May 3, 1895, the proposal for a Chapter at Rose was assured the necessary approval of the other two Chapters in the State. Grand Recorder Woods, who attended this convention, visited the prospective petitioners at Rose "Poly" with Schurmann and Veatch and gave his official sanction for a Chapter



*PHI CHAPTER FOUNDED BY THE BIRMINGHAM ALUMNI CHAPTER SHARED IN THE FOUNDING OF BETA PHI. BETA XI WAS FOUNDED BY THE KANSAS CITY ALUMNI CHAPTER.

[DRAWN BY W.H. HOLMES B.Y.]

A SIGMA NU CHAPTER TREE

Lineage of Chapters designated by a single Greek letter and those embraced in the "Beta" series of double-letter nomenclature.

there. Favorable action by the other members of the High Council was influenced by the recommendation given by Grand Recorder Woods.

Beta Upsilon Chapter was installed on May 25, 1895, in the hall of Beta Zeta at Lafayette, Indiana. The five charter members initiated on that occasion were August H. Meyer, James B. Haney, Harry T. Patterson, Edward Walser and John J. Kessler. Grand Recorder Woods and J. Robert Boatman, his reliable emissary who became known as "Delegate at Large" in Sigma Nu, attended the installation of Beta Upsilon Chapter, inaugurating a connection with Zeta Chapter of Central University of Kentucky, which, through the affiliation of J. Robert Riggs, created the alumni contact upon which Beta Upsilon depended for inspiration and guidance during early years of its history.



J. ROBERT RIGGS,
ZETA-BETA UPSILON

"Bob" Riggs was Clarence Woods' roommate at Central University, and as secretary of the Eighth and Ninth Grand Chapters assisted Grand Recorder Woods. He became a stand-by of the Chapter at Rose.



HOWARD SCHURMANN, BETA ZETA
Member of the Purdue Chapter, founder of Beta Upsilon at Rose. He was the first delegate to represent a Division Association at a Grand Chapter.

Beta Upsilon drew its membership from a student body probably more widely scattered in residence than that of any other institution embraced in the roll of Sigma Nu Chapters. It is significant that four States and the Territory of Hawaii were represented in a residence list of the five charter members. It is a fact that more than ninety per cent of Beta Upsilon alumni became or remained nonresidents of the State of Indiana. The reputation built up by Rose "Poly" in its specialized engineering courses and the proficiency of its graduates insured by its severe scholastic requirements made wide demand for degree men of that institution. Consequently Beta Upsilon has not had the intimate alumni contact enjoyed by most Chapters. For several years during the



SEVENTH DIVISION CONVENTION, INAUGURAL MEETING, GREENCASTLE, IND., APRIL 3, 1896

Schmitz, S. C. Johnson, Hodgkins, Brownlee, Maple, Forkner, Herr,
Morton, Templin, Marsh, Duncan, Campe, Kessler, Ellis, Kling, Smith, Cadwell,
Byrns, Mentzer, Hagey, Schurmann, Haney, Bayard, Cecil,
Deerhake, Hamlin, Cook, Clark, H. H. Johnson, Harper, Coleman

Chapter's early history, J. Robert Riggs was a resident of Terre Haute, having been connected with the engineering department of one of the large railway systems. During these years the name of "Bob" Riggs, counselor and exemplifier of Sigma Nu ideals, was written indelibly in the records of this Chapter. The history of Beta Upsilon is lacking in colorful incidents. Consistency, in a word, conveys the predominant characteristic of its career.



ROBERT A. BYRNS,
BETA ZETA
Member of the Purdue Chapter, Father of the Division Convention proposal, who became first secretary and a leading spirit in the New York Alumni Chapter.

The origin of the Division Association dates from the time of the fourth annual convention of the Indiana State Sigma Nu Association, at which meeting Beta Upsilon Chapter was given its generating impulse. Robert A. Byrns, Beta Zeta, Purdue, made the suggestion that the Chapters in the States of Ohio, Illinois and Michigan, which States with Indiana then composed the Seventh Division, be invited to the next meeting of the Indiana State Association for the purpose of expanding the organization into a Division Association. A Chapter in the State of Michigan at that time was in prospect and was established before the organization meeting of the Seventh Division Association, held with Beta Beta as host at Greencastle, Indiana, April 3, 1896.

The State of Michigan was brought within the compass of Sigma Nu in 1895 by the establishment of Gamma Gamma Chapter at Albion College. This institution originally was chartered as an academy under the name of Spring Arbor Seminary, located at Spring Arbor, Michigan. By act of the legislature in 1839 the charter was amended, changing the name to Wesleyan Seminary and the institution was moved to Albion, Michigan. In 1849 the charter again was amended, creating a female seminary under the name of Wesleyan Seminary and Female Collegiate Institute. In 1861 an act of the legislature granted full collegiate powers to the institution and changed its name to Albion College. By the same act it was provided that the courses of study should not be inferior to those of the University of Michigan. The College was established under control of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The faculty of Albion College has always been liberal in attitude toward fraternities. Delta Tau Delta placed a Chapter there in 1876; Sigma Chi in 1886; and Alpha Tau Omega in 1889. Gamma Gamma Chapter of Sigma Nu was the outgrowth of what in 1891 was one of the strongest literary societies in the College. The avowed objects of the society were literary development and social culture. Its sessions were secret. The good faith and honor of a gentleman were the only obligations imposed. As the society grew in strength and influence a fraternal bond developed, which led to the suggestion of fraternity affiliation.

The advent of Samuel E. Boys and Gerard T. Smith into the membership gave impetus to this idea. Boys and Smith had been members of Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Nu at Southwest Kansas College when that heroic group bolted in a body and entered the neighboring St. John's Lutheran College in resentment against an antifraternity decree.



SAMUEL E. BOYS, BETA KAPPA-GAMMA GAMMA

One of the founders and a charter member of the Chapter at Albion College.

During the college year 1894-95 the fraternity idea became so fixed in the society that an investigation of several Greek-letter organizations was begun. There was general accord in the decision to seek fraternity affiliation, but division arose over selection of the fraternity to be petitioned. After several months of debate a majority in favor of Sigma Nu prevailed, and on May 18, 1895, this victorious element organized Gamma Gamma Chapter. On that date Boys and Smith initiated David R. Lee, Charles O. Hiscock, Herbert E. Haynes, Walter Healy and James D. McDonald, and with them became the charter members of the Albion Chapter. Henry F. Jacobs, Robert I. White and Ernest Corbin were initiated during the short period remaining before the close of the college year.

In order better to perfect the organization Gamma Gamma Chapter kept its existence a secret for almost a year. On March 21, 1896, publication of its motives and personnel in the *Pleiad* and a banquet that night formally introduced the fourth national fraternity into Albion College. Their reception was cordial and the college relationships of the Chapter have remained harmonious throughout its history. Gamma Gamma is one of the Chapters whose record runs steadily true to a good beginning. In personnel and in achievement the Chapter has maintained the standard of its charter members, always loyally in earnest about Sigma Nu. In athletics and in debating and literary activities the members have been consistently prominent. In fraternal relationships Gamma Gamma has typified the close fellowship generally found in Chapters in the smaller colleges.

The establishment of four new Chapters in the first half of the year 1895 was not indicative of Regent Robinson's position on the question of expansion. Although the progressive element at the Seventh Grand Chapter seemed to take satisfaction in his election, the so-called conservatives felt assured that their views would be reflected in the attitude of the new Regent in considering petitions. Robinson's liberal action in favoring four new Chapters in the first quarter of a two-year term was explained in part by the fact that as many

Chapters formerly prominent had lapsed into dormancy about that time. Omicron at Bethel College was at such low ebb that it was considered lifeless. Beta Omicron, its offspring at the University of the South, was entirely defunct. Sigma at Vanderbilt and Beta Phi at Tulane were temporarily inactive. Believing that these losses would in a measure be counteracted by gaining the four new Chapters which he approved in the beginning of his administration, Regent Robinson thus explained his over-liberal action. During the remaining year and a half of his first term of the regency Robinson's attitude was reversed, only one petition receiving his official sanction. Other groups sought consideration, but were informed that the Regent refused to sign another charter. Thus, for the first time in fifteen years, a twelve-month period passed without the establishment of a new Chapter. It was a befitting pause before an important triumph which stands out conspicuously in the history of that period.

CHAPTER XXIII

The Pioneer Spirit Persists

WHEN Carl Lane Clemans established Beta Chi Chapter of Sigma Nu at the opening of Leland Stanford University in 1891 it resulted in contact which within two years doubled the Sigma Nu population of the State of Washington. This increase is not startling when it is known that the second catalogue of the Fraternity, published about that time, contained the names of only ten members of Sigma Nu residing in that remote State. The sparse fraternity population in the Northwest at that time is further revealed by the fact that there was not a member of Sigma Nu then residing in the State of Oregon. Faith and fraternity zeal were not lacking in that section, however, for in the summer of 1894 Sigma Nus in the State of Washington, whose number had increased to eleven, met at the home of Alexander T. Hosmer, a student at Stanford, then living at Tacoma, and organized the Northwest Alumni Association of Sigma Nu. The contact from which this activity generated came during the first month after the establishment of the Stanford Chapter, when Scott Calhoun, of La Conner, Washington, was made a member of Beta Chi Chapter. Four of the next fifteen initiates following Scott Calhoun at Stanford were also from the State of Washington.



CARL LANE CLEMANS,
CHI-BETA CHI
Leader of Sigma Nu's Pioneering ventures on the Pacific Coast.

Enticed by these associates from the North and impelled by the pioneering spirit that had lured him to the Pacific Coast, Clemans settled in Washington after he left Stanford, locating at Snohomish, where he entered newspaper work. Heralded as the founder of the two California Chapters and of Chi, his native shrine at Cornell College, Iowa, it was natural that Clemans should be called upon to share in the work of establishing a Chapter at the University of Washington. Fraternities had not yet entered this institution when Clemans became a resident of the State and the situation at the University was such that it took pioneer courage to blaze the Hellenic trail. Although the movement did not originate with Clemans, its success depended largely upon his influence and as-

sistance. In recognition of his connection with its founding the new Chapter was designated Gamma Chi, associating again, as in the christening of Beta Chi at Stanford, the name of Chi Chapter, where Clemans was made a Sigma Nu.

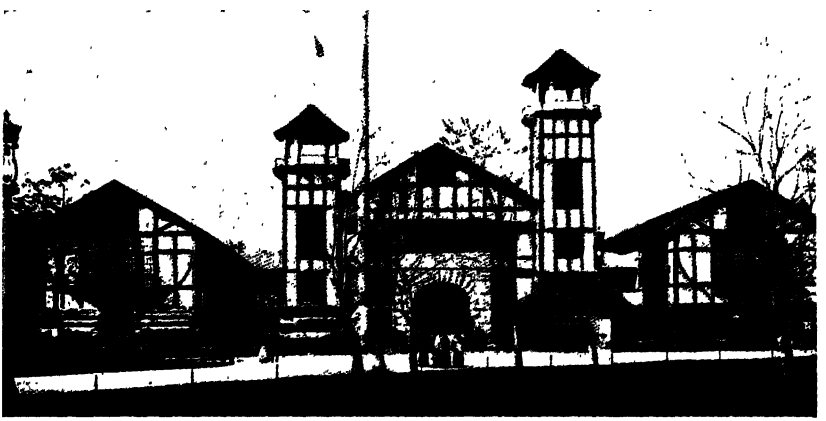
The history of Gamma Chi Chapter is peculiarly related to the history of the University of Washington because of the inspiration and support received from a common benefactor. The University, established during the "'50's" in the early territorial era of the State, was first located on a ten-acre tract then on the outskirts of the town of Seattle. With the prospect of a railroad to the Puget Sound country the institution prospered with the community, which in time enveloped the University site in its phenomenal expansion. In 1885, while the campus was still contiguous to a forest, there was graduated from the University of Washington one Edmond S. Meany, a native son, six-feet-four in height, whose vision was even more above the average than his stature. With rare perception Edmond Meany visualized the tremendous growth of the City of Seattle and the corresponding development of the University of Washington. As a member of the legislature during the years 1891-93 he was primarily responsible for the setting aside for a new University site of a section of school lands lying five miles out from Seattle between Lake Washington and Lake Union, three miles from Puget Sound. Meany completed this service for his Alma Mater by forcing through the legislature the appropriation necessary to move the University to its new location. Thus began a career of devotion to the welfare of the University of Washington that linked its destiny so intimately with the life of Edmond S. Meany that its early history is rarely discussed without his name being mentioned.

At the session of the legislature above referred to an appropriation was made also for the Washington State building and exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition, held at Chicago in 1893. It was in this building in that far-distant city that principals met and impressions were made, resulting in the initial suggestion that a Chapter of Sigma Nu be placed at the University of Washington. Among the officials named to have charge of the affairs of the Washington State building were Edmond S. Meany, executive secretary, and Dr. G. V. Calhoun, one of the commissioners, father of Scott Calhoun. This connection drew Scott Calhoun to Chicago during the Exposition, where he became intimately acquainted with Meany, the companionable secretary of the Washington State commission.

It is an interesting matter of the Fraternity's history, appropriate to record at this place, that on July 24, 1893, a group of Sigma Nus met at the Washington State building and formed what they named the Columbian Chapter of Sigma Nu. They elected Scott Calhoun president; Whitlow V. Draffen, Rho, Missouri, vice president; and Hugh E. Marsh, Beta Iota, Mount Union, secretary-treasurer. Others attending the initial meeting were Clifton E. Byrd, Beta, Virginia; Adolph T. Bruegel, Pi, Lehigh; Frank Kepner, Beta Eta, Indiana; Charles Cottingham, F. Stuart Foote and Harry B. Marsh, of Beta Zeta, Purdue. Several hundred college men were employed on the Exposition grounds during summer vacation as Columbian Guards and with the rolling chair concession. The membership of the "Columbian Chapter" grew in number and proved to be

a very pleasant and profitable association, bringing together Brothers from every section and promoting a national contact among Chapter representatives never before experienced. In their meetings at the Washington State building the members became acquainted with Edmond S. Meany, who in this way received his first insight into the advantages of a college fraternity. He was so impressed that he made the suggestion to Scott Calhoun that a Chapter of Sigma Nu be established at the University of Washington.

In the fall of 1895 Arthur P. Calhoun, brother of Scott Calhoun, entered the University of Washington. He was a splendid athlete and won a place at once on the football team, playing fullback. One of the halfback positions was held by George L. Andrews, of La Conner, Washington, where the Calhouns



WASHINGTON STATE BUILDING
World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893. Meeting place of the "Columbian Chapter" of Sigma Nu, where the plan for a Chapter at the University of Washington first was proposed.

had lived up to about this time when they moved to Seattle. Playing the other half was John J. Lindsay, who in one year held the captaincies of football, baseball and track teams, who ranked with "Danny" Coogan of the University of Pennsylvania as one of the best amateur baseball players of his time and of whom it was said by the premier sports critic of that period that "he could step upon the field and captain any football team in the country". Notwithstanding the fact that Lindsay helped earn his way while winning athletic laurels, he also achieved honors in scholarship, was president of his class and managed the *Pacific Wave*, one of the University periodicals. On the same football team with Lindsay, Calhoun and Andrews in the fall of 1895 were Robert W. Abrams and Herbert C. Ostrom, the latter a three-letter man and one year captain of baseball. Completing a sextet of distinguished athletes who became associated together in fellowship was John B. McManus, a famous sprinter of that time, who served one year as track captain and was also a mainstay in baseball.

A member of Sigma Chi Fraternity residing in Seattle, a graduate of an Eastern college, proposed to his brother, a student in the University, that this group be approached with the idea of petitioning for a charter of Sigma Chi. The suggestion was agreeably received by the six associates, who realized that fraternity ties would tend to perpetuate their friendships. Several meetings were held, but before a charter was formally applied for Scott Calhoun learned of their plans through his brother Arthur. Recalling the remark of Edmond Meany at Chicago he determined to act at once on Meany's suggestion that a Chapter of Sigma Nu be established at the University of Washington. Scott won Arthur to a proposal that Sigma Nu be petitioned instead of Sigma Chi, and together they converted Andrews, whom they had known at La Conner. Lindsay and McManus lived at Everett, in the same county as Snohomish, where Clemans resided. The fame of the star of Stanford's first football team had followed him north, and his influence helped win "Jack" Lindsay and "Johnny Mac" for a Sigma Nu petition. The four converts won over Abrams and Ostrom, only the originator of their local declining.

On May 19, 1895, these six associates became the charter members of Gamma Chi Chapter of Sigma Nu, the first initiates of a college Greek-letter fraternity in the Northwest. Clemans was then Grand Treasurer of Sigma Nu and secured by wire the approval of the petition. Desiring to install the Chapter for a start before the end of the college year it was decided not to wait for a copy of the Ritual, and the secret instructions were given from memory. According to the initiates, memories that night were especially active in recalling side degrees, the variety that Clemans had learned at previous installations having been augmented from recollections of other alumni who participated. A meeting of the Northwest Alumni Association had been called to assist in the installation ceremonies. Among those present was Antione J. Ferrandini, alumnus of Lambda, Washington and Lee and founder of Beta Alpha at Yale, who was elected president of the Northwest Alumni Association at this meeting.

For nearly four years Gamma Chi was the only Chapter of a college fraternity in the Northwest. Isolated and without rivals its early members were naturally slow in realizing national relationships. Although there was no reason for secrecy except in the charm of so existing, it was more than a year before it was generally known on the campus that a Chapter of a Greek-letter fraternity had been installed. The charter members at first regarded Sigma Nu as an honorary society, in which additions to membership would be determined during the college year by the same natural process of affinity which had drawn the original group together. Consequently when only Lindsay, McManus and Arthur Calhoun returned in the fall after the Chapter was installed, they were not alarmed about the prospect. McManus attended the University only at intervals during that year, mining activities dividing his time. Early in the spring term Arthur Calhoun anticipated the Klondike gold rush of the following summer by joining a group of prospectors. Concern over lack of Chapter activity had already been expressed in letters from Regent Robinson and from Albert H. Wilson, Beta Iota, whose Sigma Nu zeal while he was then in college at Mount Union gave promise of his life-long service in national affairs of the



GAMMA CHI CHAPTER, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, 1897-98

Left to right, lower row—Jacob L. Gottstein; John B. McManus; Frank Allyn, Beta Chi; Carl Lane Clemans, Chi-Beta Chi; Franklin Fogg, Beta Chi; Charles A. Fowler. Upper row—Walter F. Morrison; Harry C. Coffman; Lucius O. Veser; Guy H. Robertson; John J. Lindsay; John G. McGlinn.

Fraternity. These appeals were heeded by Clemans when he learned that only Lindsay and McManus remained at the University and a meeting of the Northwest Alumni Association was called to assemble at Seattle in May to assist in rehabilitating Gamma Chi.

The lack of contact of this remote Chapter with the national organization during its first year is emphasized by the fact that at the time of this meeting of the Northwest Alumni Association, which celebrated the first anniversary of the founding of Gamma Chi, the Ritual had not come into possession of the Chapter. Again a Seattle-made ceremony was devised from memory by Clemans and other alumni, who kept three neophytes waiting in an anteroom of the Masonic Hall, then in the Peoples Bank building, while they plotted their induction into Sigma Nu. The three initiates on that occasion were Guy H. Robertson, John G. McGlinn and Harry C. Coffman. Robertson was then the leading literary light of the student body. McGlinn, a boyhood friend of "Art" Calhoun and a protege of "Jack" Lindsay, was just emerging from a subfreshman course when initiated and became president of his freshman class the next year. Coffman was the political leader of student affairs, a genius who not only brought about a real Chapter organization, but who built up Gamma Chi to a power through which he planned pioneer movements into neighboring States, spreading over the whole Northwest the prestige Sigma Nu gained by being four years ahead of the general fraternity invasion of that section.



EDMOND S. MEANY, GAMMA CHI
The most beloved son of the University of Washington, who originated the idea of a Sigma Nu Chapter there.

In the fall of 1897 Lindsay, McManus, Coffman, McGlinn and Robertson returned. Under Coffman's direction the group was welded into a compact organization. Several additions were made to the Chapter roll—and very fortunate it was—for during that college year Lindsay and Robertson were lured to the Klondike region of Alaska and McGlinn departed with the First Washington Volunteers for service in the Spanish-American War. Robertson and McGlinn returned, but the beloved "Jack" Lindsay went down in the *Jane Grey* disaster within sight of his native shore. Coffman was graduated in the spring of 1899, but remained as librarian of the University for a number of years, pursuing constantly his devoted service for Sigma Nu.

During the passing of the years Edmond S. Meany had become registrar of the University of Washington. The charm that his companionable spirit found

in associations with the Columbian Chapter of Sigma Nu was enjoyed with the members of Gamma Chi from the time the Chapter was installed. He attended Sigma Nu banquets, was a boy with the boys and a friend and counselor to all. The study of history had for years been his earnest pursuit, and in the end led to his appointment to full professorship in his beloved University. In 1899 Meany registered as a postgraduate, making him eligible for membership in



CLARENCE E. WOODS, ZETA

As Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*, he assumed administrative control under most discouraging conditions. His heroic efforts in the beginning forecast the remarkable service rendered during his extensive official career.

Sigma Nu. Thus was sentiment, which antedated the founding of Gamma Chi, linked with its later history, giving the Chapter the luster of Professor Meany's distinguished career along with his fellowship for life as a member of Sigma Nu.

In the period of one and one-half years during which Gamma Chi was the only new Chapter established, four Chapters were restored to activity, principally through the efforts of Grand Recorder Woods. Iota at Howard College, which the Seventh Grand Chapter had ordered discontinued on account of non-

payment of dues and general delinquency, was given new life through the work of Wellington P. McAdory, who collected a considerable sum, which with his promise of continued vigilance restored Iota to good standing. Beta Phi at Tulane was revived through the efforts of Henry M. Furman, of Phi. Through personal visitations from Woods, Sigma at Vanderbilt was given new life after its second relapse and Omicron at Bethel College was rejuvenated. Financial difficulties following a severe panic throughout the country had carried several Chapters to low ebb, causing a serious situation in the Fraternity which beset Woods constantly during his first two-year term.

When Woods assumed the offices of Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta* in 1894 he encountered a debt of more than five hundred dollars owing Harrington and which had been ordered paid by the Seventh Grand Chapter. A balance of nearly nineteen hundred dollars was shown on the ledger account as owing from Chapters, and from this it had been declared more than enough could be collected to pay off all claims upon the general Fraternity. Woods found after persistent attempts that in most cases these chapter debts could not be collected and that efforts in that direction generally tended to demoralize further the delinquent Chapters. After months of correspondence and circularizing he made a trip visiting half a dozen of the heaviest debtors, but with all this effort he was able to collect only a little more than one hundred dollars of $1,896.60 outstanding.

Desperate in a situation which he had inherited, Woods issued a statement setting out the facts and showing the necessity of suspending publication of *The Delta* unless chapter obligations were met. It was eleven months before another issue was printed. This lapse served to bring delinquents to a sense of their responsibility for suspension of *The Delta*, and before the close of his two-year term Woods collected sufficient funds to enable him to print the delayed issues and to pay all the expenses of his administration. During this trying period Woods had able assistance from his chapter mate, J. Robert Riggs, who for several years bore unofficially the title of Assistant Editor of *The Delta*. At the Eighth Grand Chapter, Riggs was appointed Assistant Grand Recorder to serve during the sessions.

The Eighth Grand Chapter of Sigma Nu met at the Southern Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri, October 13-14, 1896. In the absence of Regent Robinson and Vice Regent Noel, Past Regent Rawson Bennett was chosen to preside, making the fourth successive Grand Chapter at which he used the gavel presented to him at Chattanooga in 1890. Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods was the only member of the High Council in attendance. Rudolph Bumgardner, Lambda, and James Alvin Clark, Delta Theta, were the Division Inspectors present. Eighteen collegiate Chapters, two alumni Chapters, two State Associations and one Division Association were represented by delegates. Among the number was John Carmichael, Jr., alumnus of Lambda, Washington and Lee, and the first Sigma Nu of a second generation to attend a Grand Chapter. Past Grand Recorder Grant Harrington was present as a delegate from Nu Chapter, University of Kansas. Walter James Sears in his initial appearance at a Grand Chapter represented Beta Nu Chapter, Ohio State. Howard Schurmann, Beta

Zeta, Purdue, had the distinction of being the first delegate to represent a Division Association in a Grand Chapter. J. Robert Boatman and J. Robert Riggs, who had represented Zeta at the previous Grand Chapter, were again in attendance as delegates from that famous Kentucky Chapter. Other delegates prominent in the work of this Seventh Grand Chapter were Orville M. Barnett, Rho, Missouri; Rufus E. Fort, Beta Omicron-Sigma, Sewanee-Vanderbilt; Charles K. Fuqua, Phi, Louisiana; and Joseph L. Stout, Beta Beta, DePauw.

The most important action of the Eighth Grand Chapter was the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution changing the method of granting charters for new Chapters. The new rule provided that to obtain a charter the petition must receive the approval of the Chapters in its Division, the favorable votes of all the members of the High Council, with not more than one-fourth of all the Chapters of the Fraternity voting against it within thirty days after the promulgation of the petition. Provision was made for an appeal from an adverse High Council vote, which could be nullified by agreement of three-fourths of the Collegiate Chapters.

Spirited debate over differences of opinion between extreme elements in the matter of extension policy featured the proceedings of this Grand Chapter. The issue was raised and pursued by one of the delegates from Beta Pi Chapter, University of Chicago. This Chapter, in less than two years of existence, had evidenced a growing disposition decidedly contrary to the attitude of most of the Chapters. There was an average sentiment prevailing throughout the Fraternity which admitted that the Bennett-Harrington policy had served its purpose during years of uncertain destiny when seemingly radical extension had helped overcome the handicaps of youth and sectional imparity. Although it was generally agreed that, having reached a position of security, Sigma Nu should modify its extension policy, there was little favor for the extreme contentions of the Beta Pi delegates, whose radical proposals, if adopted, would have left Sigma Nu stranded between progressive rivals and so-called exclusive organizations with which the Fraternity had little in common except a Greek-letter name. Bennett, foe of snobbery, led the opposition to a radical departure from the old policy, which change he claimed would virtually repudiate the history and traditions of Sigma Nu. The result was a happy compromise proposed by Walter J. Sears, Nu-Beta Nu, reluctantly submitted to by the Beta Pi Chapter delegates, but thoroughly representative of the conservative mind which controlled the opinions of most of the Chapters.

A fight against permitting membership in Theta Nu Epsilon, then an interfraternity parasite, which Grand Recorder Woods had assailed in *The Delta*, resulted in a resolution making it obligatory for a Chapter to apply for and secure a dispensation from the High Council before a member of the Chapter could join T. N. E., as the fraternity in question was known.

A law was passed requiring every initiate, in order to be in good standing, to secure from the Grand Recorder a certificate of membership to be issued only upon payment of initiation fees. Upon urgent advocation by Past Regent Bennett an amendment to the law was passed providing for the payment of delinquent chapter indebtedness by a certain date, imposing the penalty of

charter revocation for failure to do so. Lack of a determined stand in this matter had created an alarming disregard for such obligations, and this measure was regarded as one of the most important actions of the Eighth Grand Chapter.

A contest which rivaled in feeling the controversy over the question of extension ensued over the election of Grand Recorder. Opposition to the re-election of Clarence Woods was based mainly on the irregular issuance of *The Delta*. It was also contended that the Grand Recorder's office should be in a large city. A proposition to reduce the salary of Grand Recorder from $600 to $300 and the question of payment of Harrington's claim complicated the discussion. Those speaking for Woods insisted that his action in delaying publication of *The Delta* had caused an awakening to financial



HENRY M. FURMAN, PHI-BETA PHI
Charter member of the Chapter at Louisiana State University. Leader in a revival of the Tulane Chapter. Elected Grand Treasurer in 1896.



JAMES ALVIN CLARK, DELTA THETA
Elected Vice Regent at the Eighth Grand Chapter in 1896. He presided over the sessions of the Ninth Grand Chapter in 1898.

obligations; that in the end he had published the usual number of issues with increasing excellence; that he had been diligent in chapter visitations and in revivals; and that he had served at considerable sacrifice and deserved re-election. These arguments prevailed on the second ballot despite the fact that Woods was opposed by a well-organized movement supporting a resident of St. Louis. The election of Woods in the end was made unanimous.

Regent Robinson was re-elected by acclamation, notwithstanding the announcement that he had requested the withdrawal of his name if renominated. James Alvin Clark, Delta Theta, Lombard, Inspector of the Seventh Division, was elected Vice Regent. Henry M. Furman, Phi-Beta Phi, claimed by both

Louisiana State and Tulane, was chosen Grand Treasurer. The following Division Inspectors were named: I, Rudolph Bumgardner, Lambda; II, Joseph A. Burdeau, Beta Phi; III, Rufus E. Fort, Beta Omicron-Sigma; IV, John E. Bishop, Rho; V, Greenleaf H. Chasmar, Pi; VI, William L. Kemp, Mu; VII, Harry P. Junk, Nu-Beta Nu; VIII, Francis V. Keesling, Beta Chi.

In response to an invitation from Sigma Chapter, Vanderbilt, a recommendation was made that the incoming High Council should call a special convocation of the Fraternity to meet at Nashville in the fall of 1897 on the occasion of the Tennessee Centennial Exposition. The meeting was held October 13 and 14, 1897, at the Tulane Hotel in Nashville. Grand Recorder Woods presided, being the only member of the High Council present. It was stipulated that this special convocation was not qualified to alter the Law in any way, and that its province was limited to discussion and recommendation. What it lacked in this regard was made up in entertainment, which was shared by representatives of fourteen Chapters.



C. JACK STEWARD, KAPPA
Enthusiastic Southern leader, alumnus of the North Georgia College Chapter, who assisted in the founding of Gamma Alpha.

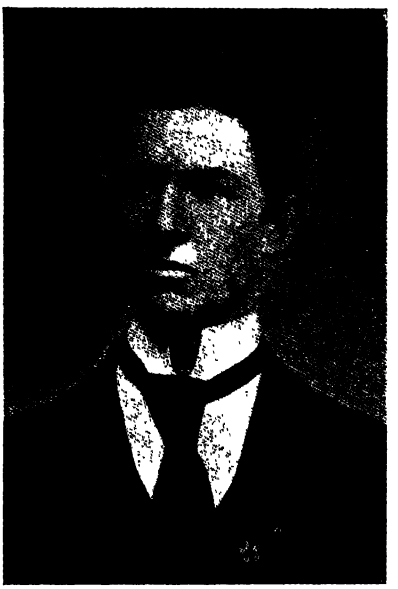
During the sessions of the Eighth Grand Chapter at St. Louis a telegram was received from William L. Kemp, of Atlanta, appealing for a charter for a group of petitioners at Georgia School of Technology. For several months this movement had been held in abeyance by the dictum of Regent Robinson, issued in the latter part of his first term, stating that not another charter would be signed by him before the Grand Chapter meeting. For three years the Georgia Sigma Nu Association had endorsed the proposal to place a Chapter at this institution, and through the efforts of W. L. Kemp, Mu, assisted by C. Jack Steward, Kappa, a group of petitioners had been organized. Grand Recorder Woods had made a personal inspection and had approved the petition. The Grand Chapter decided that it would not be in due form to consider the granting of a charter on telegraphic request and the matter was not further considered in the sessions.

Georgia "Tech", as the institution became popularly known, was established at Atlanta under State control in 1888. Alpha Tau Omega placed a Chapter there that year, followed by Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1890 and Kappa Sigma in 1895. In the fall of 1896 there were more than two hundred students in attendance, representing the best families of the State. The four Chapters of Sigma Nu then existing in Georgia believed it imperative to their future welfare that this collegiate contact be established in the State's metropolis. Regent

Robinson yielded to this opinion immediately after his re-election, adding his approval along with that of the other members of the new High Council.

Before the change in the Law regulating the establishment of new Chapters could become operative, it was necessary that this amendment to the Constitution be ratified by a two-thirds majority of all the Chapters. Pending this action, it was officially decided that the old rule governed, and that therefore the unanimous vote of the Division Chapters and of the High Council was sufficient to grant a charter. Accordingly, the establishment of Gamma Alpha Chapter at Georgia School of Technology was authorized.

The installation of Gamma Alpha Chapter on November 25, 1896, was conducted in conjunction with a meeting of the Georgia State Sigma Nu Alumni Association at the Kimball House in Atlanta. More than sixty members of the Fraternity were in attendance. William M. Walton, initiated into Alpha Chapter the year after the Fraternity was founded, officiated as Eminent Commander. Assisting in the ritualistic work were George M. Moore, Eta, as Lieutenant Commander, William W. Collins and C. Jack Steward, of Kappa, and W. L. Kemp, Mu. The charter members initiated were Horace H. Ehle, Archie J. Robertson, Jesse C. Crawford, Samuel A. Bulloch, Robert T. Waller, Jr., Donald Foster Hewett and Julius Y. Arnold.



WILLIAM L. KEMP, MU
Founder of Gamma Alpha, a life-long devotee of Sigma Nu. Elected Vice Regent at the Ninth Grand Chapter in 1898.

The early meetings of Gamma Alpha Chapter were held in Kemp's room in a boarding house, then located on the site later occupied by the sixteen-story Healy building. Initiations were held at each of the first three meetings, adding a total of six new members to the roll. These men, who shared with the charter members the work of the Chapter's first year, were Charles M. Binford, R. Joseph Binford, Henry L. Rudolph, Charles A. Rudolph, Thomas D. Killian and Stephen O. Shinholser. Under Kemp's constant vigilance, Gamma Alpha slowly worked its way into a secure position at Georgia "Tech", where the Chapter has since continued to strengthen the standing of Sigma Nu in that strategic location. The founding of Gamma Alpha was the first notable fraternity service of "Billy" Kemp, loyal and lovable Brother, in whose life as a Sigma Nu there doubtless never was a day that he did not give a thought or render a deed toward the welfare of his Fraternity.

The establishment of Gamma Alpha Chapter served to increase the discontent of Beta Pi Chapter, University of Chicago, whose extreme attitude op-



CONVENTION OF GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION
Kimball House, Atlanta, November 28-29, 1898.

posing any further extension had been brought to a compromise at the Eighth Grand Chapter. Although it was not then known beyond the inner circle of the Chapter, this disaffection was being created within Beta Pi Chapter by an influence with ulterior motives. The bias existing was brought to evidence early in the year 1897, when a movement was inaugurated to place a Chapter of Sigma Nu at Northwestern University.

Northwestern University was established in 1851, by the Methodist Episcopal Church. It was located in a forest of oak trees bordering on the shore of Lake Michigan, twelve miles north of the city of Chicago. Around the University grew the classic suburb of Evanston. During the college year of 1896-97, there were about three thousand students attending Northwestern University. Eight fraternities were represented. Phi Delta Theta entered in 1859; Phi Kappa Psi in 1864; Sigma Chi, 1869; Phi Kappa Sigma, 1872; Beta Theta Pi, 1873; Delta Upsilon, 1880; Delta Tau Delta, 1893; and Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1894. Phi Gamma Delta had a Chapter at Northwestern from 1860 to 1870, but was inactive at the time Sigma Nu entered.

In the fall of 1896, a local fraternity, called Gamma Delta Sigma, was organized at Northwestern, with Harry T. Parsons its leading spirit. Through the instrumentality of A. Miller Belfield, alumnus of Beta Zeta, Purdue, this local voted in January, 1897, to petition for a charter of Sigma Nu. Belfield immediately secured assurance of support from Grand Recorder Woods, and interested several fellow Chicago alumni in the proposition. It soon developed that Beta Pi Chapter at the University of Chicago was not in sympathy with the movement. It was not until in April, three months after petitioning efforts were begun, that members of the Chicago University Chapter were induced to accept the invitation of the Gamma Delta Sigma local to meet its members. Through persuasion by Inspector Harry P. Junk, the endorsement by Beta Pi Chapter was reluctantly given before commencement time, but too late to secure the approval by the other Chapters of the Division before summer adjournment. The amendment to the Constitution, changing the Law on the admission of new Chapters, had been ratified in the meantime, and in the fall of 1897, after approval of the Northwestern petition by the High Council and by the Chapters of the Division, it was submitted for a referendum vote to all the Chapters, and a charter was granted.

On January 21, 1898, Gamma Beta Chapter at Northwestern University was established with a charter membership of fourteen, as follows: Harry T. Parsons, Ormel C. Ainsworth, George B. Goodwin, Walter G. Kenney, Ernest E. Olp, Gilbert H. Wilkinson, George T. Nesmith, George W. Seager, Hugh M. Tilroe, Paul R. Siberts, John M. Schneider, Thomas F. Moody, Newton P. Willis and Harvey M. Solenberger. The installation of the Chapter was held in the parlors of the Victoria Hotel on Michigan avenue in Chicago with officers of Beta Pi Chapter conducting the initiation ceremonies. Vice Regent James Alvin Clark and Grand Recorder Woods were present, and the affair was the most elaborate installation held up to that time.

Gamma Beta Chapter began its existence in the house on Sherman avenue in Evanston where the charter members had operated as a local. Grand Recorder

Woods spent two days with them, giving them the inspiration of his Sigma Nu enthusiasm. The charter members were represented in nearly every branch of University activity, and were especially strong in literary societies and in musical organizations. Parsons and Schneider won prizes in oratory; Goodwin was president of one of the literary societies; Moody was president of the Y. M. C. A.; and Tilroe was president of his sophomore class. Kenney was on the baseball team, and was manager one year. Siberts played end on the Varsity, and was selected on the all-Western team. Scholarship was from the beginning one of the highest aims of Gamma Beta Chapter, with the result that a total of fourteen members won Phi Beta Kappa honors in as many years.



CLARENCE J. LUTHER,
GAMMA BETA

Leader of the Northwestern University Chapter, as he appeared when serving as a Division Inspector.

The personal contact formed by Grand Recorder Woods brought early members of Gamma Beta into responsive interest in the affairs of the general Fraternity. The first member of the Chapter to become officially connected with the national organization was Clarence J. Luther, the thirty-fourth initiate. He served as Inspector of the Division embracing the Northwestern University Chapter. For a quarter of a century Luther remained the Chapter's most dependable alumnus, Gamma Beta's most steadfast supporter and reliable counselor.

Although participation by Beta Pi Chapter in the installation of Gamma Beta should not be judged as merely perfunctory, circumstances surrounding the situation, and the disdainful attitude of members of Beta Pi Chapter following the affair, support the conclusion that sincerity was lacking in their welcome to the neighboring Chapter. Involved in a haughty feeling, made glaringly apparent, was the fact that there was a more democratic spirit displayed at Northwestern than at the University of Chicago, where the relative proportion of students in the advanced classes and in postgraduate work was much greater, and hence the general perspective was not the same. Some of the members of the new Chapter at Northwestern were admittedly undeveloped, but without exception they were admirable and upright fellows, recommended by unbiased Sigma Nu alumni as earnest and enthusiastic fraternity men.

Whatever may have been the opinions of the members of Beta Pi in this regard, their attitude toward this new Chapter, as well as toward the Fraternity in general, was being prejudiced by an insidious influence that reeked with foulness of the days of fraternity piracy, when the whole system was debauched

by traitorous deeds and defiled by perfidious corruption. This treacherous plot, disguised as merely an act of defection, came to light in May, 1898, when Grand Recorder Woods received a copy of resolutions signed by eighteen alumni and eleven active members of Beta Pi Chapter, all but three of the total chapter roll, surrendering their charter and severing their connection with the Fraternity. The reason given was a lack of harmony between the Chapter and the general Fraternity.



CLARENCE A. TORREY,
CHI-BETA PI



JOHN M. ROBERTS,
BETA GAMMA-BETA PI

Members of the first University of Chicago Chapter, who "walked in the Way of Honor."

Rumors were soon current that Chi Psi fraternity influence had been planted in Beta Pi Chapter, a method employed in the corrupt age of interfraternity relationships, when an unscrupulous organization sought entry into a new field, and lacked the ordinary principle of honor that would cause it to shrink from trafficking with perjurers. The deserters formed what they called the "Q. V. Club", and denied that they had ulterior motives in withdrawing from Sigma Nu. The subterfuge of their action was not long continued, however, for during the next college year the members of the "Q. V. Club" were initiated into the Chi Psi fraternity, instituting its Chicago University Chapter. All were expelled from Sigma Nu.

The three members of Beta Pi Chapter who remained loyal to Sigma Nu were Clarence A. Torrey and John M. Roberts, two of the three affiliates who had organized the Chapter, and Edward R. Branson, an initiate of the second year. The fidelity of John Roberts, then a non-resident alumnus, had survived assault

and discouragement in years of conflict at old Beta Gamma Chapter, and of course his loyalty was impregnable. The integrity of Clarence Torrey was put to the severest test during the infamous intriguing within Beta Pi Chapter. From the day that the Chapter was installed, Torrey had been closely associated with its members, after receiving his degree having become connected with the University of Chicago library, a life engagement. Although an alumnus, Torrey roomed in the three-story, stone-front chapter house while the degrading influence was secretly at work. It was compliment to him that he was the last man approached in the conspiracy. It is everlasting honor to him that, after trying in vain to dissuade the others from breaking their vows, Torrey stood firmly by Sigma Nu, although it meant the severance of fraternity ties with intimates of years' association. The more is the shame that must in time have penetrated the conscience of his traitorous chapter-mate from Chi, who helped Torrey and Roberts establish Sigma Nu at the University of Chicago, then bartered his honor for another badge.

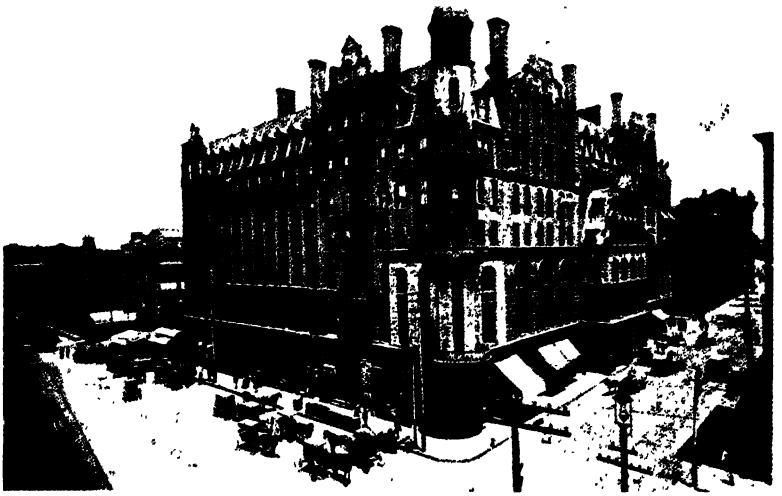
The action of the Chicago Chapter was naturally a very great shock to the Fraternity at large. Its effect, however, was not seriously disconcerting. Instead, there resulted an awakened sense of mutuality such as is aroused among those whose common interests are imperiled. The *esprit de corps* of the Fraternity was unquestionably strengthened by this challenge to its integrity. A stronger spirit of chapter unity and of chapter interdependence was stirred by this assault against the foundations of Sigma Nu. These results were manifest in the legislative action of the Ninth Grand Chapter, which met at the Kimball House in Atlanta, Georgia, July 20-22, 1898.

Although the Ninth Grand Chapter was productive of vital results in matters of jurisprudence, it was in outward aspects more of a social ensemble than a deliberative body. The time of meeting was advanced to midsummer in conjunction with the dates of the Confederate Veterans convention, which premier Southern reunion it was expected would add greatly to the number and to the pleasure of those attending the Grand Chapter. Especially in the latter respect, this hope was abundantly realized. The aggregate number of those who appeared in the convention hall from time to time was in excess of the attendance total of any previous Grand Chapter. Yet at some of the sessions there were barely enough delegates present to transact business, so great were the social attractions of the veterans' reunion. Even the Grand Chapter banquet was abandoned, when delayed business crowded the closing hours of the final session, which adjourned *sine die* with barely half a dozen delegates present.

Vice Regent James Alvin Clark presided over the sessions of the Ninth Grand Chapter. Grand Recorder Woods and Grand Treasurer Furman were the other members of the High Council in attendance. J. Robert Riggs, Zeta, Secretary of the preceding Grand Chapter, again served in that capacity. Past Regent Daniel W. Langton attended as a delegate from the New York Alumni Chapter, and precipitated considerable conflict by declaring the meeting legally incompetent, because it had been called only three months beforehand, six months' notice being required by the Law. Out of the chaos which followed came the decision to submit all action to the Chapters for ratification. Langton had been

out of harmony with the policy of the Fraternity during the decade following his retirement from the regency, and in vain he again sought to dominate with his views.

The real work of the Ninth Grand Chapter was accomplished in committee rooms, where new leaders were developed along with new regulations. It was the first convention in eight years that had not been under the spell of Rawson Bennett's strong will and superior intellect. The Fraternity had outgrown one-man domination and one-man administration. The difficulties which Woods encountered during his first two terms were greatly due to shortcomings of the system, which had been devised to fit Harrington's official needs and desires at a time when arbitrary control steered the Fraternity through the vacillating period of its youth.



KIMBALL HOUSE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA
Meeting place of the Ninth Grand Chapter, July 20-22, 1898. The early meetings of the Georgia State Association were held at the Kimball House.

There was demand and necessity for a thorough overhauling of the statutes, a revamping of the Law that would eliminate conflicts and inconsistencies, restate its provisions in technical form, and revise its regulations to meet the needs of a progressive national organization. Fortunately, there were present two delegates, peculiarly qualified for this service, who were named as a special committee on jurisprudence. Borden H. Burr, Theta-Lambda, who represented both the University of Alabama and the Washington and Lee Chapters, was appointed chairman of the committee. Ferd H. Heywood, alumnus of Beta Nu, Ohio State, and a delegate from the Columbus, Ohio, Alumni Chapter, was selected to serve with Burr in this important work. Heywood was also a mem-

ber of the Finance Committee, thus forming an interlocking connection which insured co-ordinate action. The groundwork for their labors had been laid by A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta, Purdue, who under authorization of the previous Grand Chapter had printed a codified revision of the Law, prepared by him after thorough study of all statutes adopted up to that time.

The most important provision in the revised Law, enacted at the Ninth Grand Chapter, was for the conversion of the office of Grand Treasurer from a nominal function to an actual and active service. The decree of the previous Grand Chapter prescribing charter revocation for failure of a Chapter to pay up all back obligations had proved unjust imposition on those not responsible for much of the deficiency. This requirement had been modified by the High Council, so as to apply only to debts of those borne on the chapter rolls after the adoption of the drastic amendment at the Eighth Grand Chapter. The financial policy of the Fraternity for years had floundered between extremes of neglect and ill-advised legislation, until the problem had become paramount in administrative affairs. The plan adopted for the remedy of this situation provided that the Grand Treasurer, instead of the Grand Recorder, should make all collections, except certain accounts in connection with *The Delta* and the catalogue. Following the legal definition of functions of these two administrative offices, an ordinance was passed providing compensation for the Grand Treasurer of ten per cent of all funds collected by him, and a salary of four hundred dollars for the Grand Recorder with a commission of twenty-five per cent of collections assigned to his office.



BORDEN H. BURR, THETA
Collegiate picture of member of the University of Alabama Chapter, who inaugurated a career of distinguished service at the Ninth Grand Chapter in 1898.

Hamilton M. Dawes, of New York City, was elected Regent at the Ninth Grand Chapter. Although not present, Dawes was known to most of the delegates for his brilliant collegiate career, and for his record of Fraternity service delineated in the pages of *The Delta* from the date of his initiation into Rho Chapter, University of Missouri, in September, 1890. Dawes had attended the Seventh Grand Chapter at Indianapolis in 1894, where he was elected Inspector of the Fourth Division, which then included the State of Missouri. Subsequently, he moved to New York City, where he was graduated from the New York Law School, and where afterwards he entered the practice of law. He quickly won a prominent place in his profession, and for many years was one of the most active spirits in the New York Alumni Chapter.

Inspector William L. Kemp, Mu, University of Georgia, who was principally responsible for the local arrangements of the Ninth Grand Chapter, was honored with the office of Vice Regent. Ferd H. Heywood was cited for his splendid work on Finance and Jurisprudence committees by election to the vitalized office of Grand Treasurer. Having regulated the financial functions of the Fraternity, the Ninth Grand Chapter by this act vouchsafed beneficial results from the change. Heywood, who had been initiated into Beta Nu Chapter at Ohio State University in 1895, was a prominent young attorney of Columbus, Ohio. By nature he was peculiarly fitted for the systematic organization of his office, which, when he assumed it, was devoid of records and destitute of forms. Clarence E. Woods, who had demonstrated through trying experiences his capabilities



FERD H. HEYWOOD, BETA NU
Member of the Ohio State University Chapter, prominent in the work of the Ninth Grand Chapter, where he was elected Grand Treasurer.



HAMILTON M. DAWES, RHO
Famous son of the University of Missouri Chapter, elected Regent in 1898.

for the dual office of Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*, was elected to a third term without opposition.

In keeping with the personnel of this High Council, which forecast an era of constructive development, the following list of Inspectors, selected at the Ninth Grand Chapter, gave promise of co-ordinating activity in every section: Division I, Charles W. Guthrie, Lambda; II, Borden H. Burr, Theta-Lambda; III, Vernon I. Witherspoon, Zeta; IV, C. Jack Steward, Kappa; V, John T. Callaghan, Pi; VI, Jesse T. Jolly, Eta; VII, George M. Cook, Beta Eta; VIII, Francis V. Keesling, Beta Chi.

It is significant that the names of three future Regents, Cook, Keesling and Burr, are embraced in this list. It is further indication of the potential im-

portance of the Ninth Grand Chapter that, included on its roster, were the names of two others destined for the regency, Albert H. Wilson and Oscar Palmour.

The growing popularity and increasing influence of Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods became apparent at the meeting of the Ninth Grand Chapter. It has been appropriately stated that Grant Harrington lifted the Fraternity out of a sectional rut and placed it on the highway of national development. It may be as truly asserted that during the first four years of Grand Recorder Woods' administration, there was developed much of the motive power which carried Sigma Nu to its national achievement. It was the example of Woods' own self-sacrificing labors that led others to serve. It was the inspiration of his fraternal spirit that stirred others to fervent enthusiasm, and kept responsive their sentiment for Sigma Nu.

CHAPTER XXIV

The Zero Hour in the East

THE high point of perfection which Pi Chapter at Lehigh University achieved, coincident with its founding of Beta Rho Chapter at the University of Pennsylvania in 1894, was not long maintained. Apparently there existed during the years 1894 and 1895 an attitude of self-sufficiency, if not an air of extreme exclusiveness, such as sometimes follows a period of superexcellence in the life of a Chapter. At any rate but one new member was admitted in each of these two years, during which time the presence of several strong upperclassmen probably deluded the Chapter into believing that its position was being maintained. Six new men were initiated during the college year 1896-97, giving some hope of continued prosperity after the graduation that year of Orrin S. Good. the last of the famous 1893-94 group. In the fall of 1897 but one member returned, however, and he was in the University for only two months' special work. With Beta Alpha at Yale and Beta Rho at the University of Pennsylvania both extinct, this bare contact at Lehigh University was all that remained of Chapters of Sigma Nu in the East as the Fraternity approached the end of its third decade.



ORRIN S. GOOD, PI
Leader in the 1897 revival of the Lehigh Chapter, from which development renewed activity in the East resulted.

The zero hour of Sigma Nu in that section was all but struck when Orrin Good learned of the situation and hastened to the Lehigh campus to stay the fate of complete dissolution. The rented chapter house had been given up the previous year with the intention of leasing another in the fall. With only a single occupant to start with, Good rented a house and began "rushing" for new members. Fortunately John T. Callaghan, who had been graduated from Lehigh a year ahead of Good and who was employed in a government position, was transferred to South Bethlehem about that time. He assisted Good in the pledging and initiation of six freshmen, upon whom the destiny of Pi Chapter devolved that year. Callaghan moved into the house and carried on with loyal

perseverance the revival effort which Orrin Good had started, and to these two men the credit is due for saving the only Collegiate Chapter of Sigma Nu then remaining in the East. The next year a Chapter was established at the University of Vermont, inaugurating consistent growth and enduring prosperity of the Fraternity in that section.

Although collegiate chapter contact in the East was all but severed in the fall of 1897, alumni activity had been aroused during the previous winter and soon gathered such momentum that the cause of Sigma Nu was assured sustaining support in that section. This pioneer movement to organize the alumni in the East was inaugurated by Greenleaf H. Chasmar, Pi, Inspector of Division V, which then embraced the nine New England and North Atlantic States, with Lehigh the only active Chapter. As first conceived, the organization was known as the Eastern Alumni Association, with Chasmar as president, and with presidents of branches at New York City, Philadelphia, Washington and Pittsburgh, designated as vice presidents of the Eastern Alumni Association. The first to organize was the Philadelphia branch, which met at the home of Charles S. Jack, Beta Rho, Pennsylvania, on January 14, 1897, and elected Amos D. Kennedy, Pi, Lehigh, president; John Lyle Harrington, Nu, Kansas, secretary; and Alonzo L. Ware, Pi, treasurer. It was in connection with the attempted revival of Beta Rho Chapter at the University of Pennsylvania that this meeting was held.



GREENLEAF H. CHASMAR, PI
His work in organizing Eastern Alumni Chapters featured his record of service as a Division Inspector.

The incipient meeting of the New York branch of the Eastern Alumni Association was held on December 26, 1896. But it was not until a meeting at the Sturdevant House, on February 26, 1897, that an organization was effected. Lewis T. Knox, Beta Alpha, Yale, was elected president; Hamilton M. Dawes, Rho, Missouri, vice-president; Robert A. Byrns, Beta Zeta, Purdue, secretary; and Byron F. Stone, Beta Psi, California, treasurer. The first formal banquet was held at "The Studio" on the evening of May 8, 1897. On the occasion of its first anniversary banquet, May 5, 1898, the New York Alumni Chapter gave evidence of the important part it was to take in development of the Eastern field for Sigma Nu when Beta Sigma Chapter of the University of Vermont was installed.

The University of Vermont is one of the oldest State universities in the country. It was established in 1791, coincident with the entry of Vermont into statehood. Its initial endowment was the gift of Ira Allen, brother of the famous Ethan Allen, who stipulated that the University should be located within two miles of Burlington Bay on Lake Champlain. The campus, commanding one of the world's most beautiful views, is situated a mile from Lake Champlain, overlooking the elm-shaded city of Burlington. Twelve miles across Champlain the Adirondacks rise in three successive ranges along the border of New York State. On the east the Green Mountain range bounds the landscape around the Bay of Burlington, the five-mile ex-



JOHN T. CALLAGHAN, PI
Inspector of the Eastern Division, 1897-99, who during that period participated in important revival and extension activities in the East.



JOHN LYLE HARRINGTON, NU
Distinguished member of the University of Kansas Chapter, who was elected first secretary of the Philadelphia branch of the Eastern Alumni Association in 1897.

panse of which lies between redrock cliffs crowned with oaks and maples and a tree-covered headland rimmed with a beach of white sand.

Fraternity life at the University of Vermont began in 1836 with the establishment of a local, Lambda Iota, which continues to maintain its individuality. Delta Psi, another local, founded in 1850, also clings to its circumscribed nature. Both these old locals have strong alumni backing. Sigma Phi, the first national, entered in 1845. Phi Delta Theta followed in 1879; Alpha Tau Omega in 1887; and Kappa Sigma in 1893. Theta Delta Chi placed a Chapter at Vermont in 1852, but survived only five years. There were over four hundred male students supporting the four national fraternities and two locals when Sigma Nu entered the University of Vermont.

In the spring of 1895 a local called Alpha Phi was formed with the avowed purpose of obtaining a charter from a national Greek-letter fraternity. At first their efforts were directed toward organizations strongly entrenched in the East. Societies native in that section had respect for the old locals at Vermont, which in limitations were extreme examples of their own kind, and with the exception of Sigma Phi these Eastern-born fraternities petitioned had refused applications for charters at the University of Vermont. The effort that culminated in a char-



GROUP OF NEW YORK ALUMNI CHAPTER LEADERS

In the office of Hamilton M. Dawes, Rho. 1, Herbert H. Nulsen, Beta Zeta, Purdue; 2, Hamilton M. Dawes, Rho, Missouri; 3, Ray C. Ewry, Beta Zeta; 4, Edward G. Pringle, Rho; 5, James F. Wilson, Beta Chi, Stanford; 6, Robert A. Byrns, Beta Zeta; 7, Edward E. Silk, Beta Zeta; 8, Daniel W. Langton, Theta, Alabama; 9, Robert E. Safford, Beta Nu, Ohio State.

ter from Sigma Nu resulted from a survey of the entire college fraternity system by James L. Davis, then an alumnus of Alpha Phi, but still a member of its fraternal relations committee in charge of the effort to bring about national affiliations. Davis observed that at that time Sigma Nu was spreading under a progressive policy of expansion and that the Lehigh Chapter, the only one in the East, had successfully battled to a front position in a field even more forbidding with Eastern fraternity influence than was the situation at the University of Vermont. Davis wrote an inquiry to the Chapter at Lehigh, which was sent to Inspector Chasmar for reply. Mutual favor developed in correspondence which followed and the granting of a Sigma Nu charter resulted.

In the meantime Chasmar had found it necessary to give up the Inspectorship of Division V and the High Council had appointed John T. Callaghan, a former Lehigh chapter-mate, to succeed him. To Inspector Callaghan fell the responsibility for the installation of the Vermont Chapter. Since it was impossible to send an initiating team to Burlington, arrangements were made for the Alpha Phi local to send representatives to New York City to receive the charter and instructions in the Ritual. William C. Perry, a senior, and Donald C. Wedgeworth, a junior, were delegated on this mission.

The first anniversary meeting of the New York Alumni Chapter, in connection with which the formal bestowal of Beta Sigma's charter had been arranged, was held in a suite of rooms at the Hotel Logerot, 128 Fifth Avenue, on the



SIGMA NU'S SECOND NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER
Beta Sigma, University of Vermont
Left to right top row—Griswold, Barton, Sawyer, Sturgess, Dodge, Perry, Canfield, Tyndall, J. E. Seaver; Middle row—Holton, Downer, St. Cyr, Wedgeworth, W. E. Aiken, J. T. Seaver, Lovewell, Udall, Brackett; Bottom row—Williams, J. H. Aiken, Daniels, English.

evening of May 5, 1898. Among those present were Dr. John Herndon French, Alpha '76; Dallas Flannagan, Alpha '82; Past Regent Daniel W. Langton, Theta; Inspector Callaghan and former Inspector Chasmar, of Pi; and Hamilton M. Dawes, Rho, who two months later was elected Regent of Sigma Nu. Dr. French presided at the initiation ceremonies and Past Regent Langton served as toastmaster at the banquet which followed. The personnel of the gathering, the splendor of appointments and the dignity of the ceremony participated in by two members of old Alpha Chapter served to impress the two emissaries from Vermont who were initiated.

Upon the return of Perry and Wedgeworth to Burlington the following were initiated and became with them the charter members of Beta Sigma Chapter: Dennie H. Udall, Lewis W. English, Elwyn N. Lovewell, Douglas

W. Holton, James T. Seaver, Leon E. Daniels, Lawrence W. Barton, Charles E. Canfield, Charles M. Sturgess, Louis P. St. Cyr, Charles F. Clark, John H. Brackett, Walter B. Williams, John M. Downer, James H. Aiken, Wellington E. Aiken, Wilbur C. Sawyer, John E. Seaver, Clarence A. Dodge, James Tyndall, Arthur S. Bean and Clifford B. Griswold. These initiations, which constituted the local installation of Beta Sigma Chapter, took place in rooms in the Hayward Block on Main Street, in Burlington, where the Alpha Phi local had met for nearly two years and where as a Chapter of Sigma Nu early meetings were held. From time to time alumni of the Alpha Phi local were initiated into Beta Sigma, the first being James L. Davis, to whose perseverance and perception the Chapter owes its connection with Sigma Nu.

Altogether thirty-two names were placed upon the roll of Beta Sigma during its first year. Indication of the standing the Alpha Phi local had won on the campus is found in the records of these alumni and active members. Five of these members were elected to Phi Beta Kappa; three attained *cum laude* honors; three received special honor citation for scholarship; two were editors of *Cynic*, a University periodical; one was editor-in-chief of the annual; one president of the Y. M. C. A.; one sophomore class president; four were in football; two in baseball; and one was captain of the tennis team. The chapter roll of Beta Sigma in later years has run remarkably consistent in number of additions and in the records of those initiated. The influence and effort of Wellington E. Aiken, one of the charter members who became professor of English at the University of Vermont, is credited greatly for this success. Other early members of Beta Sigma proved useful alumni in Sigma Nu and the importance of this first permanent New England Chapter was soon manifest in the Eastern field.

Strikingly similar to the entry of Beta Sigma Chapter into Sigma Nu was the installation of Gamma Delta Chapter, Stevens Institute of Technology, for which the New York Alumni Chapter was also sponsor. This institution was established at Hoboken, New Jersey, in 1871, through endowment from a bequest of Edwin A. Stevens. Its courses of instruction were designed primarily for the study of the industrial arts and sciences, but provision was made for a liberal education, including a department of belles-lettres. The advent of fraternities began in 1874 with the establishment of a Chapter of Theta Xi, an organization confining its membership to students of engineering, but otherwise conducted along the lines of general fraternities. Delta Tau Delta, entering Stevens the same year as Theta Xi, was the first general fraternity established there. Beta Theta Pi followed the next year and from its Stevens Chapter came William Raymond Baird, founder of Baird's "Manual of American College Fraternities", recognized authority on Greek-letter society information. Alpha Tau Omega entered Stevens in 1881, but became inactive in 1894. Sigma Chi, established there in 1883, survived but eight years. Chi Psi and Chi Phi entered in 1883 and Phi Sigma Kappa in 1899. About one-third of the students were members of fraternities when Sigma Nu entered.

The predilection of Charles Ernest Meding for institutions of Southern heritage was responsible for the choice of Sigma Nu by a group of students at Stevens, which was seeking connection with a national Greek-letter fraternity.

In October, 1898, Meding addressed a letter to Sigma Nu Fraternity at Virginia Military Institute, not knowing that ten years previously Alpha Chapter had ceased to exist. The inquiry found its way to the officers of the Fraternity and eventually to members of the New York Alumni Chapter with whom its disposition was left. A committee composed of Past Regent Langton, Theta, Alabama, Dallas Flannagan, Alpha, and Malcolm MacLear, Beta Alpha, Yale, was appointed to investigate the prospects and the petitioners. Assisted by the ever-reliable Chasmar, the matter was given the most thorough investigation to which a petition to Sigma Nu had been subjected. The presence of Langton on the committee was alone sufficient to guarantee the limit of scrutiny and discrimination in every phase of the matter. It was not until after eight months of consideration by the committee, during which time Langton succeeded in eliminating several of the petitioners, that upon recommendation of the New York Alumni Chapter a charter was granted to Richard T. Anderson, Howard B. Close, George E. Kirsten, George H. Levie, Frederick R. Stevens and Charles Ernest Meding, who became the charter members of Gamma Delta Chapter.

The installation of Gamma Delta Chapter was held at the Hotel Savoy in New York City on the evening of February 3, 1900, in conjunction with the fourth annual banquet of the New York Alumni Chapter. Edward G. Pringle, Rho, Missouri, who had helped organize the New York Alumni Chapter, and Robert E. Safford, Beta Nu, Ohio State, then its treasurer, were especially active in preparations for this installation. Again Past Regent Langton, John H. French and Dallas Flannagan assisted in the inaugural ceremonies and intiations. Hamilton M. Dawes was present, this time as Regent of the Fraternity. The High Council was further represented by Grand Recorder Woods. James F. Wilson, Beta Chi, charter member of the Stanford Chapter, by his presence gave token of Grant Harrington's claim that Sigma Nu would be reinforced for Eastern extension by pioneering in the West. Widespread chapter representation was impressive indication of the Fraternity's national growth, lending prestige to the affair. In every respect this installation exceeded in elaborate arrangements and finished execution any similar occasion up to that time. A ten-dollar dinner climaxed the festivities. The menu, uncensored in *The Delta*, contained words exotic in Sigma Nu print—*Chateau D'Agassac, Chateau Filhot, Moet & Chandon.* "The toasts were all spicy," *The Delta* reported. "Spirited," it might more accurately have been stated.

Initiation of Lafayette P. Streeter, Samuel Ketchum and Howard V. Meeks prepared against the loss of four charter members by graduation in the spring of 1900, making a roll of five men who returned for the first fall opening of Gamma Delta Chapter. Herbert B. Church, Frank B. Jacques, Clifford B. LePage and Samuel H. Lott were soon brought into fellowship and for life retained the inspiration gained at their initiation, which was attended by Regent Dawes, Past Regent Langton, Albert H. Wilson, Beta Iota, Mount Union, and other distinguished alumni. The names of these first-year initiates are no less cherished in the history of Gamma Delta than are those of the charter members. Ketchum and Church maintained residence in nearby localities, while LePage and Lott became associated with the faculty of Stevens, all these members

becoming mainstays, whose vigilant interest contributed greatly to the success of Gamma Delta's first quarter of a century of existence. During this twenty-five years the name of Albert H. "Bert" Wilson, Beta Iota, so early linked with the Chapter's activities, became as familiar to every initiate as the names of Gamma Delta's most loyal alumni, none of whom exceeded in zeal and constancy Wilson's interest in the welfare of that Chapter.

During Gamma Delta's first year Wilson had entered Drew Seminary, Madison, New Jersey, to study for the ministry. It was then that he formed attachments with the Stevens Chapter and became connected with the New York Alumni Chapter, in whose sphere he toiled unceasingly in service for the Fraternity until he converted the East from an unexploited territory to an important stronghold of Sigma Nu. His first Eastern conquest, planned while still at Mount Union College, was brought to culmination almost coincident with the founding of the Stevens Chapter when, on April 7, 1900, Gamma Epsilon Chapter was established at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania.



ALBERT H. WILSON, BETA IOTA
His connection with the founding of Gamma Delta at Stevens inaugurated intimate contact with fraternity affairs in the East, where he made Sigma Nu a power.

Lafayette College was founded in 1824 under control of the Presbyterian Church. According to its catalogue it "is related to the Presbyterian Church not only historically and legally, but by hearty accord in spirit and purpose". Not more than one-third of the students as a rule are members of that denomination, however. and the church control is asserted only in veto power over trustee selections and in supervision of religious instruction. The site of the College is on a hill overlooking the City of Easton and the junction of the Lehigh and Delaware Rivers, a setting rich in Indian lore and abounding in natural beauty. To this picturesque locality fraternities of Eastern origin were first attracted when Phi Kappa Sigma placed a Chapter there in 1853. This pioneer ceased existence in 1883. Delta Kappa Epsilon, the first to remain permanently at Lafayette College, entered in 1855. Zeta Psi followed in 1858; Theta Delta Chi and Sigma Chi in 1867; Phi Kappa Psi in 1869; Phi Delta Theta in 1873; Chi Phi and Delta Tau Delta in 1874; Phi Gamma Delta in 1883; and Delta Upsilon in 1885. Sigma Chi became dormant in 1887 and Delta Tau Delta in 1893, both reviving in later years. During the college year 1886-87 Pi Chapter at Lehigh had been given a dispensation to establish a Chapter of Sigma Nu at Lafayette College, but this authority had not been exercised.

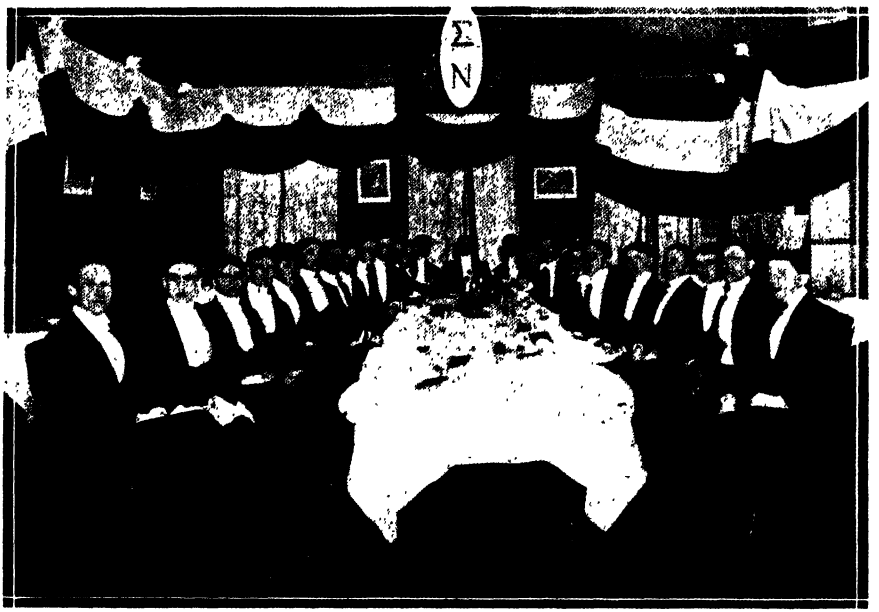
In the fall of 1898 Beta Iota Chapter, Mount Union, pledged Harry H. Glessner, a freshman from the State of Pennsylvania. Before he became eligible for initiation Glessner was notified that he had been tendered a full scholarship at Lafayette College. At first his fraternity ties caused him to hesitate, but finally he made the transfer, promising to attempt organization of a Chapter at Lafayette College. The difficulties he encountered in this strongly occupied field proved more formidable to Glessner because he could speak only as a novice, lacking the knowledge and the standing of an initiate. In any emergency where the welfare of Sigma Nu seemed at stake Albert H. Wilson was not a strict constructionist of the Law. Learning of Glessner's difficulties in efforts to pledge a group of petitioners at Lafayette College, Wilson wrote to a member of Pi Chapter explaining the situation. As a result of his correspondence it was arranged for Glessner to register at Lehigh University, only twelve miles from Easton, where he was initiated as a member of Pi Chapter. Returning to Lafayette College in the fall of 1899 with his most serious limitation eliminated Glessner pledged six students, who agreed to join him in petitioning for a charter from Sigma Nu. Grand Recorder Woods met and approved the petitioners on his return from the Gamma Delta installation at New York City and a charter was readily granted.

The charter members of Gamma Epsilon Chapter were Harry H. Glessner, Robert B. Cunningham, Otto F. Theis, William K. Seibert, Ellwood H. McClelland, Jesse H. Miller and Edwin E. Rohrer. The six unenlightened were initiated at the Pi Chapter house in South Bethlehem on April 7, 1900. Frank B. Gearhart, Commander of Pi Chapter, and Frederick A. Groff, Lieutenant Commander, officiated. The installation was attended by Dallas Flannagan, Alpha; Malcolm MacLear, Beta Alpha; and Robert A. Byrns, Beta Zeta, representing the New York Alumni Chapter; George E. Kirsten, representing the Stevens Chapter; and Frederick A. Denicke and John Rush Baird, alumni of the University of California Chapter, who were then sojourning in the East. After the initiation a banquet was given the members of the new Chapter and other guests at the historic Sun Inn Hotel in Bethlehem. Charles E. Rowe, Pi, a senior at Lehigh, presided at the banquet.

Glessner and the six associates who joined with him were members of the two lower classes at Lafayette when Gamma Epsilon came into existence. Efforts to win desired upperclassmen to the cause failed until after the seven charter members returned from the installation ceremonies held at South Bethlehem. They soon won the sympathy and support of three seniors, whom previously they had sought in vain. These first initiates of the new Chapter were Charles W. Schmidt, Arthur Phillips and Burton A. Jones. Each had won campus honors and they were popular students whose acceptance of Gamma Epsilon's invitations, after rejecting other fraternity bids, was explained as due to their admiration for the group of novices who faced a field of rivals intensely affected by snobbishness. Schmidt that year had played on the Lafayette football team which defeated the University of Pennsylvania, Cornell and Lehigh. Phillips had won Phi Beta Kappa honors in scholarship and was one of the fastest men on the track team. Schmidt and Phillips were *Melange* editors. Jones was lead-

ing pitcher in baseball, was vice president of the senior class and one of the most popular men in the College.

The acquisition of these three seniors relaxed the tension of Panhellenic *hauteur* that was set against Sigma Nu at Lafayette in the beginning, a disposition to respect the new Chapter displacing an unwelcome attitude. The charter members, like their senior accessions, were students in South College, whence came records for scholarship rather than standards for society. In time the



GAMMA EPSILON INSTALLATION BANQUET
Held under the auspices of Pi Chapter, Lehigh, at Bethlehem, Pa., 1900.

charter members made their marks at Lafayette and merited the support of their senior initiates, whose chapter fellowship they enjoyed but two months before commencement.

All the charter members returned in the fall of 1900 with Robert B. Stauffer, then a sophomore, who had been initiated in the spring. Henry A. Theis, Charles M. Means, Raymond J. Snyder, Harry P. Rothermel and John A. Horan were initiated and helped advance Gamma Epsilon's standing at Lafayette during the Chapter's early years. The Theis boys were brothers, both being graduated after contributing honor to the Chapter. David W. Phillips, a brother of Arthur, was initiated during the second year, and like his brother won Phi Beta Kappa honors and attained a Master's degree, for which degree Arthur Phillips returned in 1903. A third brother, Roswell, joined later, and through a second generation Phillips became a cherished name on Gamma Epsilon's roll. In chapter spirit as well as in blood relationships there was a perpetuating loyalty gen-

erated in the Lafayette Chapter, which has steadily strengthened Sigma Nu's position in a Panhellenic field where artificial standards no longer dictate.

About the time that Wilson planned the aberrant action which resulted in the establishment of Gamma Epsilon Chapter his unbridled Sigma Nu spirit led him to devise and execute a more daring extension venture, justified by a self-interpreted point of Law. Wilson, then a junior at Mount Union, was a member of the college baseball team, which for years had enjoyed friendly rivalry with the Bethany College nine. In the spring of 1899, when Bethany played two games at Alliance, their captain and first baseman, Jesse E. Martin, and their manager and shortstop, Frederick M. Gordon, were entertained at the Sigma Nu house. In conversation it was learned that these two Bethany students were leaders of a group which for nearly two years had been bound together for the purpose of petitioning for a charter of a national fraternity. On the return engagement for two games at Bethany, Wilson and Curtis J. Bowman were Beta Iota's representatives on the Mount Union team. They were guests of Martin and Gordon in their rooms and met the other members of the aspiring local group.

In the meantime Wilson's resourceful mind had conceived a way to circumvent the certain opposition in store for a petition from Bethany College should there culminate a mutual desire to bind the Bethany and Mount Union friendships with ties of Sigma Nu. After approving the Lafayette College petition Regent Dawes took a stand against admitting another Chapter during his administration. There was also a prejudice at that time against the smaller colleges as prospective fields for extension. Knowing the situation Wilson proposed a revival of the old Epsilon Chapter when the meeting at Bethany developed a desire for a charter there. Although Epsilon had been dormant fifteen years, so far as search through proceedings published in *The Delta* disclosed, its charter had never been revoked. Since there was then no statute prescribing a period of time when a charter should lapse, Wilson believed there was no legal barrier against the revival of Epsilon by members of Sigma Nu attending Bethany College. For obvious reasons he did not refer the matter for an official opinion. Instead it was proposed and agreed that Gordon and Martin should go to Alliance, register as students of Mount Union College and be initiated into Beta Iota Chapter. This part of the plan was executed in the spring of 1899, Gordon and Martin being recorded on Beta Iota's roll as initiates numbers eighty-one and eighty-two, respectively.

Upon their return to Bethany College in the fall Gordon and Martin organized their associates preparatory to instituting the revival of Epsilon Chapter. A suite of four rooms was rented and furnished. It was planned that members of Beta Iota should participate in the formalities of initiation and revival. When word was received that all was in readiness Wilson, Bowman, Melvin Battles, William Weaver and Forrest Hill left Alliance, Ohio, at two o'clock on the morning of the appointed day, ferried across the Ohio River sometime after sunrise and proceeded a few miles further to the little West Virginia town on the banks of the classic Buffalo River, where, in 1883, Louis R. Rogers had received by mail the secret work and the authority from Lambda Chapter to establish Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Nu. In this picturesque spot, where Phi

Kappa Psi, Beta Theta Pi and the Mother Chapter of Delta Tau Delta once had been rivals only Beta Theta Pi had survived the low-ebb period in the midst of which Sigma Nu had made its futile effort to exist.

Bethany College was enjoying a return to prosperity with increased endowment and growing attendance when the Sigma Nu revival was planned. The Chapter of Beta Theta Pi was riding high on the crest of this prosperity with a fine group of fellows, but with worthy fraternity material not enjoying the privilege and benefit of organized fellowship. The formation of a rival organization was a natural consequence. The plan for restoring Sigma Nu was so quietly worked out that it came as a complete surprise to the members of Beta Theta Pi as well as to other students. The initiation ceremony was conducted in the afternoon and that evening the nine charter members of the revived Epsilon Chapter made their public appearance at the annual student reception given by the Y. M. C. A. The five members of Beta Iota remained over for the affair and helped to make this dramatic re-entry of Sigma Nu more impressive.

The nine Greek debutants on that occasion were Frederick M. Gordon, Jesse E. Martin, William H. Fields, Victor H. Miller, George A. Waddle, John F. Shrontz, Albert G. Israel, Robert R. Green and Willis E. Pierce. Their standing on the campus is revealed in records of honors won, which include presidencies of freshman, sophomore and junior classes; president, Y. M. C. A.; president and treasurer, athletic association; three football and two baseball regulars; leader, manager and four members glee and mandolin club; officers and two contestants in oratorical association; business manager and two editors *Collegian;* and the supreme scholastic honor of *summa cum laude,* which Waddle won when he was graduated.

The local announcement of the revival of Sigma Nu at Bethany was no more of a surprise than was the information when received by the members of the High Council. First knowledge of the *coup d'etat* came through Grand Treasurer Heywood, who received a draft for dues and taxes from members of Epsilon, with the statement that the Chapter had been revived. Various degrees of reproach were expressed by the officers of the Fraternity in correspondence upon the matter, but action was delayed until a personal investigation was made by Grand Recorder Woods in February, 1900. In the meantime no evidence had been found that Epsilon's charter had been revoked and no statute existed that would void it through lapse. Woods found the situation at Bethany College auspicious for Sigma Nu's revival there and the chapter personnel highly satisfactory. He recommended recognition with the provision that the action be subject to ratification by the Grand Chapter following. This was agreed to by the other High Council members with the understanding that initiations would cease in the meantime.

The Tenth Grand Chapter met at the Palmer House in Chicago, October 17-19, 1900. As ranking officer present, Grand Treasurer Heywood presided. Twenty-four Chapters were represented. Past Regent Bennett, attending his seventh Grand Chapter, was a source of inspiration and a sagacious counselor during the sessions. Carl Lane Clemans came from the Pacific Coast with a

petition for a charter at the University of Oregon, which was granted. Past Inspector Chasmar, Pi, and Lewis T. Knox, Beta Alpha, president of the New York Alumni Chapter, represented that active organization with delegates from the three new Eastern Chapters evidencing the vigor of their recently acquired proteges. Representatives of twelve Alumni and Division Associations further indicated the widespread interest aroused during the two-year interim between Grand Chapters.

The situation created by the unauthorized revival of Epsilon Chapter furnished the topic for spirited debate at various times during the sessions of the Tenth Grand Chapter. Gordon and Fields represented the Chapter and won



PALMER HOUSE, CHICAGO
The original Palmer House, since torn down, where the Tenth Grand Chapter met in 1900.

general admiration that influenced the adoption of Bennett's resolution favoring official recognition, which action was based on the supposition that Epsilon's charter never had been surrendered. On the final day of the Grand Chapter a dramatic conclusion to the discussion of Epsilon's status came when there was produced in a printed record of "Private Transactions" of the Fraternity a report made to the Birmingham Grand Chapter in 1887 that Epsilon's charter had been returned to the Grand Recorder. This contravened the assumption upon which Epsilon's claim had been sustained and Bennett, who had warmly championed the Chapter's supposed rights, acknowledged the legal conflict with his resolution which had been adopted and which he then withdrew. As a sub-

stitute there was unanimously approved a resolution recognizing the validity of initiations already performed; authorizing initiation of all candidates then under pledge, but denying further initiations; permitting Epsilon all other privileges of a Chapter as long as any member recognized by this resolution remained a student at Bethany College, but providing that thereafter this special dispensation should terminate.

Having disposed of this perplexing matter the delegates took precaution against a recurrence of such a situation by approving a blanket revocation of



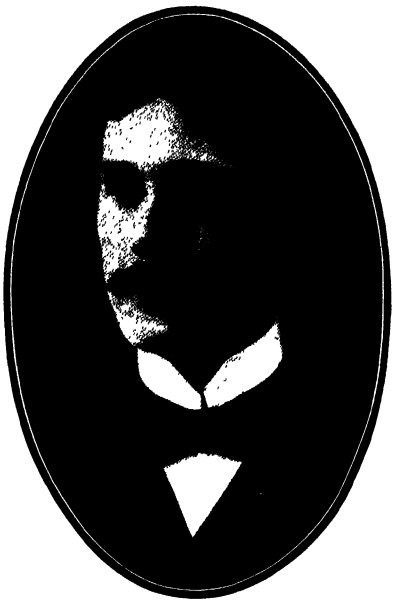
HAMILTON M. DAWES, RHO
Member of the University of Missouri Chapter, twice elected Regent, serving four years, 1898-1902.

all charters of Chapters then inactive. The charters withdrawn by this action were Gamma, Delta, Tau, Beta Alpha, Beta Gamma, Beta Delta, Beta Epsilon, Beta Kappa, Beta Lambda, Beta Omicron, Beta Rho and Beta Phi.

The report of Grand Treasurer Ferd Heywood to the Tenth Grand Chapter reflected the wisdom of his election at the previous convention. The Grand Treasurer's office had been made a vital function with the result that Chapters had increased respect for their financial obligations and alumni had greater

confidence in the organization. In the two years Heywood had entirely revolutionized the financial affairs of the Fraternity, revising all its forms, rehabilitating its records and completely reorganizing the office upon a business basis. Consistent with this new financial policy the Tenth Grand Chapter transferred collections for *Delta* advertising and subscriptions from the Grand Recorder's office to the office of Grand Treasurer, which official became sole custodian of funds.

The Tenth Grand Chapter made the office of Vice Regent more than an honor by adding the title and duties of Inspector-General, a supervisor over the work of the Inspectors. The work of preparing a new catalogue was also assigned to the office of Vice Regent. This proved ill-advised, however, and the work devolved upon the Grand Treasurer, who had the records and the facilities for handling this task. Several important changes in the Law were made which dealt with problems of the time, but which were not revolutionary in character. The work of Past Inspector Harry P. Junk, Nu-Beta Nu, and of Lewis T. Knox, Beta Alpha, on the Jurisprudence Committee, made them the recipients of great praise for service rendered during the Tenth Grand Chapter.



HARRY P. JUNK, NU-BETA NU
Alumnus of the University of Kansas and Ohio State University Chapters, a Grand Chapter leader whose untimely death in 1904 caused grief throughout the Fraternity.



BORDEN BURR, THETA-LAMBDA
Pre-eminent Southern leader, whose work as Division Inspector marked him for the highest honors in the gift of the Fraternity.

Significant of progress made during the two-year period were reports from some of the Inspectors who had been greatly responsible for such results. Borden Burr reviewed the activities of Southern Chapters, showing that they were in



INAUGURAL BANQUET OF PACIFIC COAST DIVISION

Held at the old Palace Hotel in San Francisco, March 5, 1898, in connection with the organization meeting of the Eighth Division, as originally constituted. Standing below the Sigma Nu banner, left to right: E. Myron Wolf, Beta Psi, 4; George E. Crothers, Beta Chi, 3; Inspector Francis V. Keesling, Beta Chi; Frederick A. Denicke, Beta Psi, 9.

step with the advance in other sections. Francis V. Keesling sent an encouraging report from the West and John T. Callaghan recounted the unusual happenings in the East. These three Inspectors were not present, but their records of service were recognized in resolutions of appreciation. Charles W. Jones, Beta Mu, Iowa, who had succeeded Inspector C. Jack Steward in the Division between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains, was present and took an active part in the proceedings, extending to broader compass the influence of one of Sigma Nu's most devoted servants. George M. Cook, Beta Eta, Indiana, the only other Inspector attending the Tenth Grand Chapter, was given recognition for his organization work in his Division by election to the office of Vice Regent, combined with which were the duties of Inspector-General.

Regent Hamilton M. Dawes, Grand Treasurer Ferd H. Heywood and Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods were re-elected without opposition. The following Inspectors were chosen: I, William A. Murphy, Psi; II, Benjamin O. Minge, Beta Theta; III, W. Wightman Hughes, Sigma; IV, Charles W. Jones, Beta Mu; V, Greenleaf H. Chasmar, Pi; VI, Orville H. Hall, Eta; VII, A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta; VIII, Ignatius J. Egan, Beta Chi.

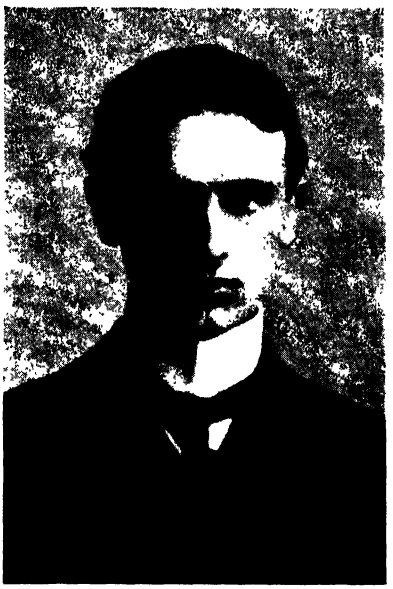


FRANCIS V. KEESLING, BETA CHI
As Inspector, he planned and directed the Eighth Division convention in 1898, the first Sigma Nu affair of the kind on the Pacific Coast.

The petition for a charter at the University of Oregon, which was granted by the Tenth Grand Chapter, was an important development in the pioneering experiences of Sigma Nu in the Far West. Only in sentiment had the remotely separated Chapters in the States of California and Washington been connected. On March 5, 1898, Inspector Francis V. Keesling had organized the Eighth Division Association at an enthusiastic meeting held at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, and under Keesling's inspiring leadership the association had become conspicuous in the work of the Fraternity Gamma Chi at the University of Washington had been included nominally in this Division organization, but because of distance had not shared the benefits except through correspondence. The establishment of a Chapter at the University of Oregon created a link which, with interchapter contact in both directions, united these strong forces of Sigma Nu on the Pacific Coast.

The University of Oregon, located at Eugene, was founded in 1872. There were about two hundred male students matriculated in the fall of 1901, when Sigma Nu established the first Chapter of a Greek-letter fraternity in the State.

Harry C. Coffman, Gamma Chi's diligent Sigma Nu apostle, had urgently advocated that the Fraternity take the lead as the Hellenic trail-blazer in Oregon as it had done in the State of Washington, where for five years the action had been so gloriously vindicated. Impetus was given the movement in the spring of 1901, when Clifton N. McArthur, manager of the University of Oregon track team, visited Seattle, meeting Coffman and other members of Gamma Chi Chapter, whose fraternal associations McArthur shared while in Seattle.



HARRY C. COFFMAN, GAMMA CHI
Leader of the University of Washington Chapter, greatly responsible for Sigma Nu's being the pioneer fraternity at University of Oregon.

During the year 1901 Beta Chi at Stanford sent a committee to investigate the situation at Eugene. Their report was favorable and Division endorsement was given the project. Luke L. Goodrich was selected as the leader at the University of Oregon around whom the effort should center, and in his name the charter was granted by the Tenth Grand Chapter. Goodrich was manager of the Oregon football team, which made a southern trip that fall, playing both Stanford and the University of California. Goodrich and four members of the team, who later became charter members of the Oregon Chapter, were entertained at the Sigma Nu houses in both places.

Harry C. Coffman was appointed installing officer for the new Chapter. The date for the installation was arranged to conform with the date of a football game at Eugene, which was the first time a team representing the University of Washington had played outside that State. Coffman was graduate manager of the Washington team and several of the players were Sigma Nus, one of the number being Arthur Calhoun, charter member of Gamma Chi, who that year had returned from Alaska and had re-entered the University. Tradition holds that the Washington team was "padded" with Sigma Nus to augment representation at the Oregon installation. With the assistance of these fellow members of Gamma Chi, Coffman installed Gamma Zeta Chapter at the University of Oregon on December 1, 1900, initiating the following charter members: Luke L. Goodrich, Clifton N. McArthur, Clarence M. Bishop, Clyde A. Payne, Charles A. Redmond, Condon C. McCornack, Frederic J. Ziegler, Edward N. Blythe and Richard S. Smith.

Luke Goodrich was a senior and was president of his class at the time Gamma Zeta was installed. He then was serving his second year as manager of the football team. McArthur, also a senior, had been president of the Associated

Students organization, manager of the track team, and was the first editor-in-chief of the *Oregon Weekly*. "Pat" McArthur was one of the best beloved of Gamma Zeta's members, and became one of the most distinguished, serving as secretary to the governor, speaker of the Oregon legislature, and representing the State in Congress. Bishop was twice president of his class, had been captain of the football team, playing four years, and was four years on the track team. Payne played football three years, and was four years on the track team. Redmond succeeded Goodrich as manager of football. McCornack succeeded McArthur as president of Associated Students, and was business manager of the *Weekly*. Ziegler was two years captain of the football team. "Dick" Smith,



LUKE L. GOODRICH,
GAMMA ZETA



CLIFTON N. McARTHUR,
GAMMA ZETA

Charter members of the University of Oregon Chapter, through whom contact between the petitioners and Sigma Nu was formed. From photographs taken in later years.

the best all-around athlete in the University, had also been captain of football, an honor he later held at Columbia University, where he won national fame as a member of a back-field trio considered peerless at that time.

The scholastic bent of these nine charter members is evidenced by the fact that eight were graduated from the University. Four of them finished at the end of Gamma Zeta's first year. The chapter roll had been increased to fifteen by that time, adding men who not only maintained the honor record of the charter members, but who broadened it by achievement in other activities. These six initiates, who shared Gamma Zeta's first year, were Frank B. Hale, Condon R. Bean, Ross M. Plummer, Ray Goodrich, Joseph H. Templeton and

Kirk M. Sheldon. Condon Bean was the first of five brothers who became members of Gamma Zeta. The chapter roll of early years records several instances of two and three blood brothers who joined Gamma Zeta. These interlinked relationships strengthened and sustained chapter ties, and contributed greatly to the continuity of Gamma Zeta's prosperity. For four years the Chapter was without a rival at the University of Oregon. The advantage gained by this priority was more than local in consequence. By virtue of these pioneer grants in the States of Washington and Oregon, Sigma Nu profited when other opportunities were opened up in the great educational development of the Northwest.

A petition from the Colorado School of Mines was presented at the Tenth Grand Chapter, endorsed along with the Oregon petition by the Chapters of the Eighth Division, and recommended by Francis V. Keesling, Inspector of that Division. Consideration of the Colorado petition by the Grand Chapter was limited, since it was pointed out that Colorado was in the Fourth Division instead of the Eighth, and that the Chapters and Inspector of the Fourth Division had not acted upon the petition. Opinions that were expressed before the extension committee concerning the institution were decidedly opposed to the idea of granting a charter there, and Inspector Jones thus was prejudiced against the project. The petitioners were informed that it was the character of the institution that had defeated their purpose, and immediately they began corresponding with Inspector Jones urging him to make a personal investigation, which they insisted would disprove the disparaging allegations. After declining several invitations, Jones finally yielded and visited Golden, where the Colorado State School of Mines was established in 1874.

Inspector Jones discovered that the institution had been grossly misrepresented in statements made at the Tenth Grand Chapter. He reported that the student body was far above the average from a fraternity standpoint, the number of matriculates being restricted to about two hundred and fifty, due to the rigidity of scholastic requirements. He reported that the petitioners were all fine young men, "as royal a set of fellows as I have ever encountered in Sigma Nu." He was so impressed with the prospect that, before he returned to his home in Iowa, he visited all the Chapters in his Division and secured their endorsement for the petition. Later he wrote strong appeals to the members of the High Council and to all the Chapters of the Fraternity urging their support. As a result a charter was granted, and Inspector Jones was authorized to install the Chapter.

The genesis of the indomitable desire for Sigma Nu that made these Colorado petitioners persist came through high school fraternity relationship between F. V. Keesling, Beta Chi, Stanford, and Howard G. Morris and Russell B. Paul, of Denver. In 1899, Keesling installed a Chapter of Gamma Eta Kappa at the East Denver High School. Morris and Paul were among the students he initiated, and in the association that sprang up between them Keesling's membership in Sigma Nu became known. The fact that the parent Chapter of Gamma Eta Kappa high school fraternity at San Jose, California, had been involved in the founding of the Stanford Sigma Nu Chapter also was revealed. Very naturally,

when Morris and Paul entered the Colorado State School of Mines and became members of a group seeking national fraternity affiliation, Keesling was addressed in the matter, and the petition to Sigma Nu resulted. There were no fraternities at Golden at that time.

Gamma Eta Chapter was installed April 17, 1901, by Inspector Jones, assisted by Clarence C. Hetzel and James E. Remley, members of Beta Mu at the University of Iowa, Jones personally bearing most of the expense of their trip. The charter members they initiated were Howard G. Morris, Robert P. Coleman, Russell B. Paul, James S. Mullen, Frank J. Nagel, Henry P. Nagel, Isla J. Barclay, Frank M. Estes and Henry E. King. Howard G. Washburn was initiated the day following the installation, and Harlow M. Kimball was made a member before the close of the year. Coleman was elected first Commander of the Chapter. Paul, Mullen, Washburn and Kimball served as class officers. Estes and the Nagel boys were on the football team. Estes was pitcher and Paul was manager of baseball two years. Frank Nagel was secretary of the athletic association. Barclay had been editor of the periodical, *The Mines*. All the charter members were reported by Inspector Jones as having high scholastic standing, Estes, King and the Nagel brothers being cited especially for their class records.

It is noteworthy that through others, besides two of the charter members of Gamma Eta, the relationship between Gamma Eta Kappa high school fraternity and Sigma Nu, which was started at Stanford, was continued for years in this Colorado Chapter. It was a double coincidence that the Greek letters composing the name of this high school fraternity were, in the regular order of chapter nomenclature, incorporated in the Greek-letter designations of two Colorado Chapters of Sigma Nu, Gamma Eta and Gamma Kappa, the latter established later at the State University. This inceptive influence from California, which affected the founding of the first Colorado Chapter, resulted in gain to Beta Psi at the University of California, where Morris and Mullen, charter members of Gamma Eta, and other members of that Chapter, affiliated and became very active.

Although the initial contact between Sigma Nu and the charter members of Gamma Eta came from California, the fact does not discount the honor due Inspector Charles W. Jones, who was responsible for the acceptance of this petitioning group into Sigma Nu. Aside from time given by Jones in visits to Golden and in traveling through his Division in behalf of the petition, much of the expense involved was a personal contribution to the cause. His greatest benefaction, however, was the inspiration of his Sigma Nu devotion instilled in the early members of Gamma Eta, who regarded Jones with worshipful affection. A second Chapter installation in Colorado added to this esteem won by Jones in that State, and linked him intimately with one of the most important extension movements in the history of the Fraternity.

CHAPTER XXV

A Progressive Policy Prevails

THE establishment of two new Chapters in the first six months of Hamilton Dawes' second term of the regency was in striking contrast to the record which made his previous administration the most conservative in the matter of extension since the Fraternity began its national advance. One and one-half years of Dawes' initial term had passed before he sanctioned the first of two charters granted during that two-year period, whereas eight new Chapters were added to the roll during his second term. Certain influences and conditions respected by Dawes were responsible for this variance. His attitude during his first term was in keeping with the reaction which marked the passing of the liberal policy of expansion found expedient during Harrington's time, the momentum of which was not stayed for several years. The reactionary movement, when it finally became dominant, swung to the other extreme, and for two years the influence of Past Regent Langton was supreme. It was not for long, however, for during Dawes' second term the progressive spirit of Sigma Nu again manifested itself, and one of the most important extension movements in the history of the Fraternity developed.

While the masterful Langton was dictator in the councils of the New York Alumni Chapter, a petition from a group of students at Cornell University was referred to that aggressive organization for investigation. Although Langton leaned toward the ways of Eastern fraternity life, he lacked confidence in the ability of Sigma Nu to achieve successfully in places where age and wealth were reckoned as paramount factors, and where costly homes were regarded as indicative of a fraternity's standing. Cornell University, founded in 1865 at Ithaca, New York, through federal and state appropriations and benefactions from Ezra Cornell, quickly became one of the leading fraternity centers in the country. Chi Phi and Kappa Alpha, Northern society, entered there in 1868. Zeta Psi, Chi Psi, Phi Kappa Psi, Delta Upsilon and Alpha Delta Phi established Chapters there in 1869. Delta Kappa Epsilon and Theta Delta Chi entered in 1870; Phi Delta Theta in 1872; Beta Theta Pi in 1874; Psi Upsilon, 1876; Alpha Tau Omega, 1887; Phi Gamma Delta, 1888; Phi Sigma Kappa, 1889; Delta Tau Delta, Sigma Chi and Sigma Phi in 1890; Delta Phi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1891. Some of the most costly fraternity homes in the country adorned the elevations overlooking beautiful Lake Cayuga and its scenic surroundings.

There were thirty-four hundred students enrolled at Cornell during the college year 1900-01. Less than twenty per cent of them were included in the membership of the twenty Greek-letter fraternities then existing there. After the lapse of ten years without an addition there was no question about

the availability of good material for another fraternity. The fear that Sigma Nu could not attain a creditable position, outdistanced in years and without a costly home, caused Langton to discourage favorable action by the New York Alumni Chapter on the petition. For want of influence to counteract such misgivings, the matter drifted and the college year ended without a report to the High Council on the attitude of the New York alumni.

The petitioning group at that time consisted of Oliver H. Davis, Wesley R. Ellis, Arthur R. Keller, Horace E. Sibson and J. D. Clair Smith. The originator had passed out of the local organization, and the others became greatly discouraged by the delay. Their selection of Sigma Nu as an objective resulted from suggestion by an alumnus of another fraternity, who put them in touch with D. H. Udall, Beta Sigma, charter member of the Vermont Chapter. Udall then was completing a two-year course at Cornell. He advised the local group concerning petitioning procedure, but was not actively affiliated with the petitioners, and with his graduation that year their only local contact with Sigma Nu was ended. Had it not been for interest manifested in them by A. H. Wilson, Beta Iota, the petitioners probably would have diverted their efforts to another fraternity the next year. During the summer months Wilson kept up intimate correspondence with Sibson, promising action by the New York Alumni Chapter in the fall. Meanwhile, Wilson attended every meeting of that organization, maneuvering so that he was selected to report on the Cornell petition. At an opportune time, Wilson presented a favorable report, which was adopted. Action by the High Council had awaited this endorsement, and the charter was granted without further delay.

It was tactfully planned for Past Regent Langton to represent the New York Alumni Chapter at the Cornell installation. Dallas Flannagan was delegated as installing officer, making the fourth consecutive Chapter installation in the East at which he had assisted. Edwin Miller, Beta Sigma, Robert Cunningham, Gamma Epsilon, and Sam Ketchum, Gamma Delta, represented the three new Eastern Chapters. A. H. Wilson inaugurated his unique record for attending Chapter installations on that occasion, and again rendered timely assistance to the petitioners. Two members of Gamma Chi Chapter, Lucius Veser and Harold Baker, were attending Cornell that year, and had actively opposed granting a charter there. Familiar with the advantage of four years' priority of their own Chapter at the University of Washington, they feared that Sigma Nu would not survive the great odds against a new contender, backed only by the courage and energy of a group of hard-working students housed in an unpretentious frame structure, which, compared with the many magnificent fraternity houses there, seemed only to emphasize the hopelessness of their ambition to make a creditable place for Sigma Nu at Cornell. Veser and Baker had frankly voiced their opinions to the petitioners, and they renewed their opposition upon the arrival of the visiting Sigma Nus, urging abandonment of the installation plans. Wilson brought the well-meaning Brothers to a more sympathetic attitude, and later they affiliated with the Chapter. Their motives had been respected, and they were welcomed all the more because of their display of loyalty in seeking to guard the best interests of Sigma Nu.

Another crisis threatened when the hour for initiations arrived and it was discovered that Langton and Flannagan had depended each upon the other to bring copies of the Ritual possessed by the New York Alumni Chapter. Seemingly prepared against any emergency, Wilson produced a copy of the Ritual he had carried ever since leaving Beta Iota Chapter, and thus was avoided an embarrassing situation, which under the circumstances might have seemed a design to delay the proceedings, with the hope of discouraging the venture.



HORACE E. SIBSON, GAMMA THETA
In the founding of the Cornell University Chapter and in the work of laying the foundation for Gamma Theta's remarkable ascent to prestige, "Sib" was the guiding spirit and directing genius.

In a very simple ceremony, conducted in a dimly lighted upper room in what then became the first Sigma Nu house at Cornell, the first Chapter of the Fraternity in the Empire State was installed on December 7, 1901. The five original petitioners—Davis, Ellis, Keller, Sibson and Smith—were initiated in a group, constituting the charter membership of Gamma Theta Chapter. These five members then assisted in initiating six associates, who had joined fortunes with them before the charter had been granted. These fellow organizers of Gamma Theta Chapter were James B. Thomas, Jesse E. Harris, John M. Young, Lionel H. DeLeon, Otto L. Goehle and Fred N. Meeker. No banquet or social function attended the ceremonies. There was a tendency toward grave contemplation rather than to levity. The most optimistic individual present could not but sense the seriousness of the task which confronted Gamma Theta Chapter.

More than the fortunes of a single Chapter were at stake in the fate of Gamma Theta. The Greek-letter fraternity population of Cornell at that time was greater and more cosmopolitan in representation than at any other place where Sigma Nu had entered. In that Hellenic complex almost the full complement of fraternities founded in the East met most of those of Western and Southern origin. Trailing twenty organizations with priority ranging from ten to forty years was a new experience for Sigma Nu, whose history had been marked by pioneering ventures. Remaining in the background at Cornell would have imposed embarrassment upon every other Chapter of the Fraternity, since relative standing there was regarded as a criterion of national position. More than passing success meant stimulation of courage for other conquests in the East.

Consensus of opinion of those who opposed as well as of those who favored this charter was that the chapter house problem was paramount. Considered

an advantage anywhere, at Cornell a chapter house comparable to those typifying fraternity standards there seemed indispensable to a creditable position. This was acknowledged by the charter members, and by one of them the fact never was lost sight of from the moment of his initiation to the day of realization. Throughout the early history of Gamma Theta Chapter, Horace E. Sibson was the great dynamic force behind its achievement. It was "Sib" who steered the drifting local to anchorage with Sigma Nu. His practical business instinct in the beginning of Gamma Theta provided against financial troubles through which many Chapters paid dearly for knowledge. He worked out a plan whereby the alumni checked up at the close of each year, and collected unpaid bills. For four years after his graduation, Sibson traveled in territory which included Ithaca, and spent almost every week-end with Gamma Theta. During this period, he promoted the chapter house building plan conceived during collegiate years, and later brought to magnificent realization.

In 1907 Sibson was advanced to the position of sales manager of his nationally known company. He selected Harvey B. Mann, Gamma Theta initiate of 1904, to succeed to his traveling position, thus providing a way to continue intimate contact with chapter management and alumni cooperation, through which Sibson's efforts had created a fund of several thousand dollars. "Dormie" Mann became a worthy second to the steadfast "Sib", whose personal labors were not relaxed by having an assistant in frequent contact with the Chapter. Within its first decade Gamma Theta possessed a chapter house of first rank at Cornell, and a chapter personnel befitting that outward showing. The equity in the property, which exceeded that owned within any other Sigma Nu Chapter at that time, was thoroughly representative of Chapter alumni participation, a fact that evidenced more than material gain in the plan. The success of Gamma Theta in general involved service and sacrifice from many other praiseworthy members. But these two mainstays stand out as principally responsible for the Chapter's fundamental achievements. Sibson's crowning act of foresight was the acquirement with personal funds of surrounding property, title to which later was taken by the chapter house association, making a tract of two and one-third acres bordering on Fall Creek, with beautiful Ithaca Falls, one hundred and fifty feet high, at Gamma Theta's back door.



HARVEY B. MANN, GAMMA THETA
The service of "Dormie" Mann supplemented the work of Sibson at Cornell, and in the Division embracing the States of Pennsylvania and New York, where successively they held the office of Division Inspector.

Clarence Woods deserves credit in connection with the establishment of the Cornell Chapter. The almost fatal delay in granting this charter to Sibson and his associates was not due to neglect or lack of faith on the part of the Grand Recorder. It was Woods who requested Wilson to make the effort which overcame opposing influences. Alert and aggressive in encouraging new Chapters,



CLARENCE E. WOODS, ZETA
Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*
Every Chapter founded during the period of his extensive official service felt the touch of his helping hand, the warmth of his fraternal spirit.

Woods was equally active and diligent in vigilance over those already established. Timely visits to Beta at University of Virginia and to Lambda at Washington and Lee restored these old Chapters after coincident periods of decline. Through C. Jack Steward, Kappa, then Inspector of the western Division embracing Nu at the University of Kansas, Woods directed the rescue of that Chapter from a critical financial crisis that was all but hopeless. Although successful in preserving these ancient shrines, Woods was forced by

circumstances to take from the roll of living Chapters his own beloved Zeta. The merger of Central University with Centre College at Danville, Kentucky, in 1901, took from Richmond the seat of Sigma Nu activity in the State, and left a host of enthusiastic alumni without a Chapter nucleus. Frank A. Lyon, one of Zeta's last initiates, entered the University of Kentucky, when the merger of Central University with Centre College was effected, and through his suggestion a movement was started to establish a Chapter at the State University.

The University of Kentucky originated from a land grant endowment, funds from which in 1866 resulted in the revival of Transylvania University at Lexington, with which was united Kentucky University, formerly located at Harrodsburg. In 1879 this connection was dissolved by act of the legislature, and the next year the University of Kentucky was established at Lexington on an independent basis. Kappa Alpha (S) and Sigma Chi placed Chapters at the University of Kentucky in 1893, disregarding an anti-fraternity law which in 1896 was repealed. Sigma Alpha Epsilon entered in 1900, and Pi Kappa Alpha, Kappa Sigma and Phi Delta Theta in 1901.



T. HOOD LITTLE, ZETA
Associated with Grand Recorder Woods in the founding of Gamma Iota at University of Kentucky, and for many years prominent in Grand Chapter activities.

The active leader in the movement to establish Sigma Nu at the University of Kentucky was T. Hood Little, an intimate associate of Clarence Woods, and who for years had shared with Woods ceaseless labors in behalf of their beloved Zeta Chapter. Skeptical of the prospect in the merged institution at Danville, and unwilling to let Zeta's traditions perish, a proposal to transplant the Chapter to the University of Kentucky was acted upon. Only in sentiment was this transfusion possible, since a new charter was necessary Hood Little organized a petitioning group, and the establishment of Gamma Iota Chapter was duly authorized. Zeta's house furnishings were sent to Lexington to become the property of the new Chapter as tangible evidence of Zeta Chapter's transplanted affections.

The installation of Gamma Iota Chapter was held January 18, 1902, at the famous Phoenix Hotel in Lexington, where in August, 1886, the second national convention of Sigma Nu had been held. At this historic spot where Bennett, Harrington, Murphey, Woods, Jeffcoat and other Sigma Nu notables of early and later days first met, the seven charter members of Gamma Iota Chapter were initiated. They were Joseph W. Lancaster, Carlisle D. Norman, Charles

A. Spencer, Victor E. D'Anna, Neil T. McKee, George H. Wilson and Walter R. McKee. George W. Pickels, of Zeta, immediately affiliated and Gamma Iota's membership was further augmented from Zeta's roll the next year. The new Chapter profited from the prestige of old Zeta as well as from its personnel, and a strong position at once was attained in social Lexington, which connection at that time was the ambition of fraternities located there. Not only the loss of Zeta was offset by the establishment of this new Chapter, but



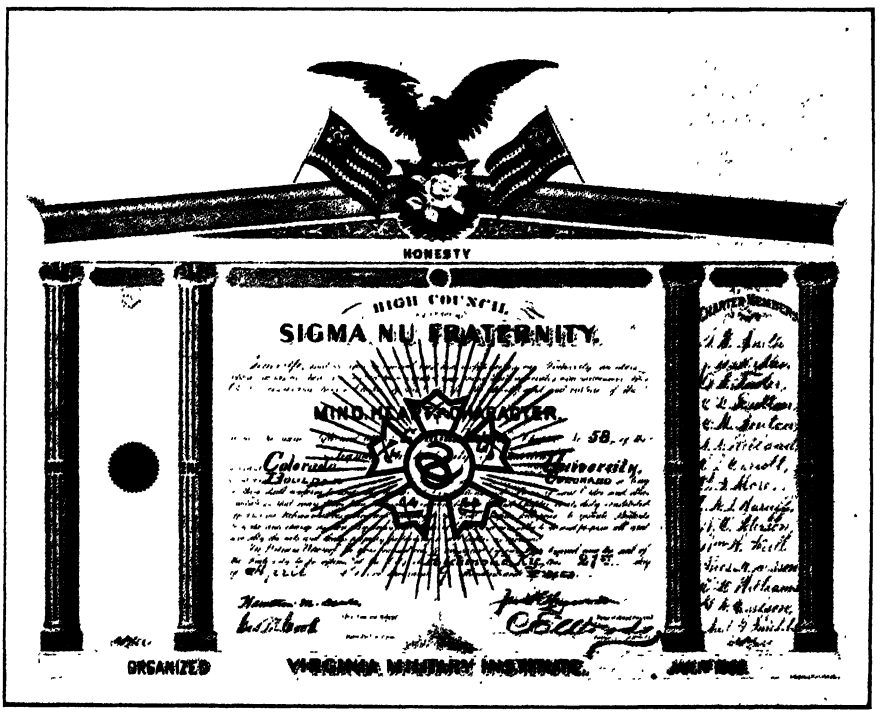
GAMMA IOTA INSTALLATION BANQUET
Sitting—N. T. McKee; T. H. Little, Zeta; G. H. Wilson; R. McKee; F. Thompson, Zeta; G. Hunt; Grand Recorder Woods, Zeta.
Standing—C. Spencer; L. P. Evans, Zeta; W. Wilson, Zeta; B. Green, Zeta; T. Pickels, Zeta; V. E. D'Anna; F. Lyons, Zeta; J. Lancaster; G. Pickels, Zeta; C. Norman, Zeta.

complete severance of collegiate contact in Kentucky was provided against. In 1904 Omicron at Bethel College ceased existence, and it was left to Gamma Iota alone to maintain in Kentucky the heritage of its Fraternity forbears, an honorable record of twenty years of achievement.

The reincarnation of the spirit of another dormant Chapter resulted in the establishment of Gamma Kappa Chapter at the University of Colorado in the spring of 1902. This institution, located at Boulder, thirty miles north of Denver, was founded in 1877, the year after Colorado's admission to statehood. The campus, situated on a mesa south of the city, commands to the east a view of Boulder Valley with its rich agricultural and fruit growing domain. To the west are foothills, a mile distant, beyond which rises the ever snow-capped summit of Arapahoe Peak. The altitude of Boulder is over five thousand feet.

The advent of fraternities at the University of Colorado began in 1883 with the establishment of a Chapter of Delta Tau Delta. Sigma Alpha Epsilon entered in 1891; Beta Theta Pi in 1900; and Alpha Tau Omega in 1901. In 1895, the Northwest Alumni Association of Sigma Nu formed contact at the

University of Colorado for the purpose of placing a Chapter there, but failed to get unanimous approval from the High Council. Working through Wilson M. Shafer, Beta Beta, DePauw, Carl Lane Clemans in 1898 made a second futile attempt to win official favor for a petition from Boulder. William McMurray, Nu, Kansas University, gathered a group of prospects during the college year 1900-01, but the movement did not culminate in a petition.



CHARTER OF GAMMA KAPPA, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
This form of charter was adopted during the early years of Grand Recorder Woods' administration.

The successful effort to establish Sigma Nu at the University of Colorado was inaugurated by George W. Smith, who was one of the members of Beta Kappa when that Chapter withdrew from Southwest Kansas College in protest against antifraternity laws. Smith was taking postgraduate work at Boulder during the college year 1901-02. There were more than five hundred students attending the University that year, and no difficulty was experienced in selecting satisfactory material for a petitioning group. Inspector C. W. Jones, who had installed the Chapter at Colorado School of Mines, gave strong support to the petition, and a charter was granted with only a single Chapter dissenting.

Gamma Kappa Chapter was installed May 2, 1902, by Inspector C. W. Jones, assisted by Russell B. Paul, Robert P. Coleman and Frank J. Nagel, of Gamma Eta, Colorado School of Mines. The charter members initiated on that occasion

were Ora S. Fowler, Adelbert A. Weiland, Oscar A. T. Haruff, Orlo S. More, Edward J. Carroll, Chesney L. Dutton, Thomas H. Jackson, John W. Needles, Craig M. Houton, Wilkins O. Peterson, Ernest Lee Williams and William H. Neill. George W. Smith, the founder, affiliated as one of the charter members of Gamma Kappa. George A. Carlson, one of the petitioners who had left the University on account of illness, was not initiated until in 1915, when by special dispensation of a Grand Chapter, held at Denver, he was made a Sigma Nu. Carlson was then Governor of Colorado.



GEORGE W. SMITH
BETA KAPPA-GAMMA KAPPA
Member of the Southwest Kansas College Chapter, instrumental in the establishment of Gamma Kappa at University of Colorado.

The charter members of Gamma Kappa Chapter were especially prominent in scholastic attainment. Three of them were assistant instructors in the University when the Chapter was installed, and ten of the thirteen charter members ultimately received this recognition. Weiland and Peterson won laurels in debating. Peterson was president of the debating society, and editor-in-chief of *Silver and Gold*, a University periodical. More was three times president of his class, and made the remarkable record of twenty-three "A's" out of a possible twenty-five. Needles was honored with four degrees from the University. Fowler was four years on the Varsity football team, and one year was captain of the track team. He was one of the most popular men on the campus, and became first president of the Associated Students organization. He was a leader in the Chapter from its beginning, and was elected first Commander of Gamma



ORA S. FOWLER, GAMMA KAPPA
Leader in the organization of the University of Colorado Chapter, who became prominent during years of service as a Division Inspector.

Kappa. Fowler's activity and popularity in connection with the University continued after he became an alumnus, and resulted in his being made a member of the Board of Regents of the University. His interest in Sigma Nu likewise survived, culminating in distinguished service as an Inspector.

It is token of the Sigma Nu spirit injected in Gamma Kappa at its beginning that two other charter members, Williams and More, also served as Division Inspectors, Williams's record leading to his election to the High Council, and eventually to the most important administrative office in the Fraternity. Credit for inspiring these early Gamma Kappa members with loyalty and enthusiasm in the work of the Fraternity is shared by the founder, George W. Smith, and by Inspector C. W. Jones, who through this second installation in the State further earned recognition as the Father of Sigma Nu in Colorado. Inspector Jones spent a week in fellowship and in counsel with the two Colorado Chapters on this third trip into the State on behalf of Sigma Nu.

Under the supervision of Vice Regent George M. Cook, who was first to hold the joint office of Inspector General, the work of Division Inspectors began to develop more efficiency and greater co-ordination. Jones visited every Chapter in his extensive territory, which included the States of Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado. His work as Inspector was matched only by the service of A. Miller Belfield, Inspector of the Division which included the States of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin. Vice Regent Cook was resident in this Division, and personally assisted in activities which culminated in the most sensational extension movement in the history of Sigma Nu, three important fraternity centers being entered within a period of three weeks. The first of this trio of Chapters established was Gamma Lambda at the University of Wisconsin.

The University of Wisconsin, located at Madison, the capital city, was projected when the State entered the Union, in 1848, active operation on a small scale beginning the next year. The campus borders on the shore of Lake Mendota, one of a chain of four connected lakes, which gave to Madison the name of the "Four-Lake City." Madison is situated on a narrow isthmus between the two largest lakes, the capitol building adorning the highest of a range of hills upon which the city is built. A graded slope from the State House site leads to another chain of hills along Lake Mendota, where the University is located, the principal and oldest building, Bascom Hall, facing the capitol across the vista.

Fraternities which preceded Sigma Nu at the University of Wisconsin were established there in the following order: Phi Delta Theta, 1857; Beta Theta Pi, 1873; Phi Kappa Psi, 1875; Chi Psi, 1878; Sigma Chi, 1884; Delta Upsilon, 1885; Delta Tau Delta, 1888; Phi Gamma Delta, 1893; Theta Delta Chi, 1895; Psi Upsilon, 1896; Kappa Sigma, 1898; and Phi Kappa Sigma, 1901. A haughty disposition among the older organizations caused the expressed belief that continued expansion of the local Hellenic field was destroying fraternity distinction as it had been regarded there. The Greek-letter colony grew steadily



LEADERS IN THE FOUNDING AND INSTALLATION OF GAMMA LAMBDA, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Standing—Inspector C. W. Jones, Beta Mu. Left—Milton Frye, Gamma Beta. Right—Robert B. Holt, Sigma-Gamma Lambda, founder of the Wisconsin Chapter. Taken from the Chapter's installation picture.

despite the threat of a Panhellenic compact, Alpha Delta Phi following Sigma Nu in 1902, and other fraternities continuing the ingression until virtually the entire list of truly national Greek-letter societies was represented at the University of Wisconsin.

There were twenty-two hundred male students matriculated at the University of Wisconsin during the college year 1901-02, only about three hundred and fifty of whom were fraternity men. Robert B. Holt, Sigma, Vanderbilt, then an instructor in French at Wisconsin, recognized the opportunity for a Chapter of Sigma Nu at that University, and under his direction a group was organized

to petition for a charter. Inspector Belfield visited Madison, accompanied by George A. Smith, another Purdue Sigma Nu, met the petitioners and gave enthusiastic support to their efforts. Within three months after the movement was started, a charter was granted authorizing the establishment of Gamma Lambda Chapter.

The installation of Gamma Lambda was held at Kelley's Hall in Madison on May 28, 1902, a chapter house rented for the next year not then being available. Division Inspector A. Miller Belfield was installing officer. Inspector C. W. Jones and Past Regent Rawson Bennett were present with other alumni and representatives from some of the collegiate Chapters of the Division, notably Milton Frye, Gamma Beta, Northwestern, who was an aid to Belfield in extension work of that period. Those initiated, who follow Robert Holt on the roll as charter members, were Otto B. Dahle, Ralph G. Plumb, Stuart E. Washburn, Ira O. Hubbard, Hubert D. Buchanan, Albert G. Hinn, Charles D. Willison, Nicholas M. Schantz, Rodger M. Trump, Chauncey R. Welton, John A. Froelich, David C. Washburn, Julius H. Warner, Charles A. Urner, Godfrey W. Barney and William O. Hotchkiss. Formal announcement in the *Cardinal* the day before the installation was the first knowledge local Panhellenic circles had of the movement to establish the Chapter of Sigma Nu.

Students preparing for Law degrees predominated in the roll of Gamma Lambda's charter members. This was due in part to the fact that Ralph Plumb, a graduate from the College of Letters and Science in 1901, who had returned to study law, was one of Holt's original confreres in the formation of the group, several of whom Plumb assisted in selecting. Plumb was elected to Phi Beta Kappa; was five years on the *Cardinal* staff; had been president of his freshman class; and was a member of the *Badger* board. Barney also served on the *Badger* board, and as president of the Y. M. C. A. Warner was on the *Cardinal* staff, was assistant business manager of the alumni magazine, and Philomathia Society orator. Trump was orator in his literary society, and chief quartermaster of the University of Wisconsin Regiment. Stuart Washburn was leader of the glee club, of which Urner was a member. Most of the charter members were active in literary society work.

Although the thirteenth national fraternity to enter Wisconsin, Sigma Nu was the sixth to acquire its own home. The foundation for this achievement was laid by the charter members, three of whom remained active in the development of later home-owning plans. Hotchkiss became a professor in the University, and for many years was connected intimately with affairs of the chapter house corporation. Welton, who remained a resident of Madison, was president of the corporation when Gamma Lambda built its magnificent chapter house in 1916. Trump, who negotiated the first property purchase, was constant in service to the Chapter, throughout its first quarter-century of existence, "Rodge" being an ever-reliable aid, whether in times of trial or in seasons of triumph. He became a Division Inspector.

Gamma Lambda without question won a place in the very front rank of fraternities at Wisconsin. In every line of student activity the Chapter at various times has furnished leaders. Individual achievement has been chiefly

responsible for honors won for Sigma Nu. But during the college year 1915-16 the Chapter as a whole received distinction, when Gamma Lambda led the twenty-three fraternities in scholarship at the University of Wisconsin. It is significant of the caliber and versatility of men of that period that the realization of chapter house plans culminated with the attainment of this scholastic triumph.

A petition from the University of Illinois was promulgated while action on the Wisconsin charter was pending, and establishment of a Chapter there followed ten days after the installation of Gamma Lambda. Over a period of seven years, frequent attempts to secure a charter from Sigma Nu for different groups at the University of Illinois had failed. This institution, which was established at Urbana in 1868, developed less rapidly than most state universities endowed with federal land grants. At the beginning, it was decided to make the University of Illinois primarily a school of agriculture and mechanic arts. Students were required to spend from one to two hours a day in manual labor for the institution, for which small remuneration was allowed. For years State support was meager, and it was not until 1887 that the legislature gave permission to the University for granting degrees.

A change of administration in 1880 heralded greater prosperity for the University of Illinois, but inaugurated a rule against Greek-letter societies, requiring each matriculate to sign a pledge agreeing not to join a fraternity, and stipulating that no student should be graduated until certifying a statement that this pledge had not been broken. Delta Tau Delta, entering in 1872, was the only fraternity which previously had existed there, and its chapter continued by operating *sub rosa*. Sigma Chi entered in 1881, and likewise evaded the edict until in 1891, when a new administration lifted the ban. Kappa Sigma then entered, followed by Phi Delta Theta in 1893; Alpha Tau Omega, 1895; Phi Gamma Delta, 1897; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1899; and Beta Theta Pi in 1902. Following the entrance of Sigma Nu, the fraternity colony grew steadily, until almost every national Greek-letter society was represented.

In the fall of 1901 a group of students at the University of Illinois, with whom were associated a professor and an assistant professor, organized for the purpose of petitioning for a charter from Sigma Nu. At that time, Robert E. Richardson, Beta Beta, DePauw, was taking postgraduate work at the University of Illinois, and to him the desire of the petitioners was made known. Richardson corresponded with Division Inspector Belfield on the proposal, but declined to endorse the petitioners as a whole, because he disapproved certain members of the group. In company with Vice Regent Cook and George A. Smith, Beta Zeta, a senior at Purdue, Belfield visited Urbana in January, 1902, to investigate the situation and to meet the prospective petitioners. They approved some of the fellows, but others they did not favor, and as a result the entire group was rejected. This action was approved by Richardson as the best way to dispose of the matter.

Two months later, Vice Regent Cook, who was engaged in newspaper work, was transferred from his home at Vincennes, Indiana, to an assignment at Urbana, Illinois. In the meantime Richardson had gathered some of the de-

sirable men of the rejected group and had added others in a new organization for petitioning. Cook and Richardson co-operated for only a short time, when they disagreed over the personnel of the group and abandonment of the project was again resorted to as the only way out of the difficulty. Selecting as a nucleus James F. Duffy and Banus H. Prater, of the original group, Cook then proceeded to recruit a petitioning organization of his own choosing. Duffy was captain adjutant of the military corps, succeeding to the rank of lieutenant colonel the next year, when Prater served as major of the first battalion. Duffy was an honor student in the engineering school and won election to Tau Beta Pi. Prater was a popular athlete, serving as captain of the baseball team in his senior year, participating also in basketball and football. Both these men were juniors when they enlisted with Cook for the petitioning effort.



GEORGE M. COOK, BETA ETA
Enthusiastic alumnus of the Indiana University Chapter, founder of Gamma Mu at University of Illinois and Gamma Rho, University of Chicago, later ascending to the office of Regent.

Cook worked assiduously about the campus, selecting his material with discriminating care. Cameron A. Rose and Lawrence S. Keeler were the first additions. Rose was a sophomore, a member of the glee club of which he became manager the next year. Keeler was a freshman, as were Charles S. O'Connell, Cecil F. Baker and Ira W. Baker, who were next selected. The Baker boys were sons of the dean of the department of engineering and their acquisition gave Sigma Nu strong local connection. Cecil Baker became a mainspring of enthusiasm in the preliminary movement and in the early activities of the Chapter. Roy J. Blackburn, a sophomore, Roy W. Jeter and Fred G. Pegelow, freshmen, completed the group of ten men who met in Keeler's room on April 15, 1902, and voted to petition for a Sigma Nu charter. The petition was sent out two weeks later, and on the last day of May word was received that the charter had been granted.

It was planned at first to delay installation until fall, when a celebration befitting the occasion could be staged. Later it was decided instead to proceed at once with the formal ceremony and to arrange a "house-warming" in the fall, when with dignitaries present public announcement of Sigma Nu's entrance upon the campus could be made with greater ostentation. The third story of the Baker home was utilized for the installation. Inspector Belfield was hurriedly summoned from Chicago, accompanied by Milton Frye, Commander of Gamma Beta, Northwestern. Charles Cottingham, charter member of Beta Zeta, Purdue, resident of a nearby city, joined the party, and with Cook com-

pleted a quartet of Sigma Nus attending the installation of Gamma Mu Chapter on June 7, 1902. The ten associates selected by Cook then were initiated as charter members. The new Chapter organized that night and made its first order of business the adoption of a resolution notifying Beta Eta Chapter, Indiana University, that Gamma Mu intended to share the right to hail its founder as "Dad" Cook, an appellation that became generally used throughout the Fraternity.

On September 19, 1902, the date originally selected for the installation, Gamma Mu Chapter celebrated its public entry into the Panhellenic colony at the University of Illinois with a chapter house "warming" at 703 South Third Street, in Champaign, the twin city adjoining Urbana. Grand Treasurer Ferd Heywood and Grand Recorder Clarence Woods attended and arrived in time to join in the hilarious meeting at the station of Vice Regent Cook, who after fulfilling his ambition to found a creditable Chapter at the University of Illinois had become resident in Chicago. Describing the reception at the depot, *The Delta* correspondent wrote: "As soon as he alighted from the train he was surrounded and shaken and patted and thumped until his bulging jaws betokened distress and he loudly called for 'more room, boys, more room!'—when the crowd fell back to give the corpulent and incomparable frater space to spread himself."



ELLIS B. HALL, GAMMA MU
Early initiate of the University of Illinois Chapter, whose record marked him as Gamma Mu's most assiduous supporter. As a Division Inspector he became prominent in affairs of the general fraternity.

The initiation of Ralph M. Carter and Ellis B. Hall, conducted by the three members of the High Council present, was the feature of the first night of Gamma Mu's inaugural celebration. The two-day affair served to give Sigma Nu the signal introduction desired and the Chapter went into action with a flying start. Roy M. Foskett, Alexander A. Miller and Alfred N. Sommer were initiated later in the fall, and during the winter Orrington C. Foster, Arthur T. Remick and Henry B. Myers were added, making a Chapter of eighteen men the first year, which would have been a credit to any fraternity on any campus in the country. Local recognition was given Sigma Nu at once by fraternities which supported Pegelow in his election to the presidency of the sophomore class. The beloved "Peg", who rose to the rank of colonel in the military department, won affection of Sigma Nus outside his Chapter when he served as a Division Inspector. Ellis Hall, another of Gamma Mu's first-year members, also

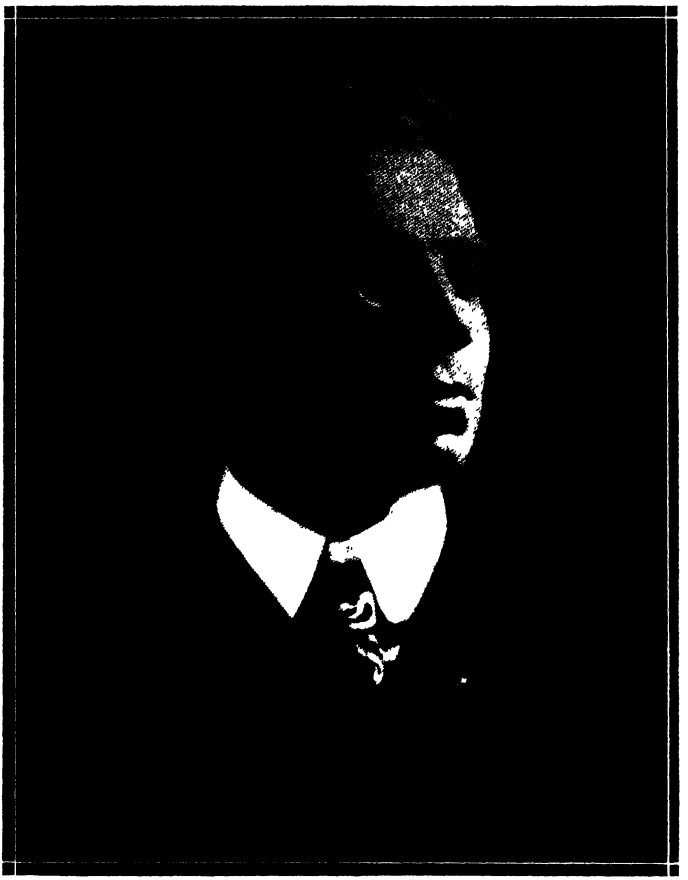
attained wide esteem as a Division Inspector, to which office he gave conscientious and sacrificing service rarely equaled. In the chapter history Hall is singled out from among Gamma Mu's immortals as "one man who has ever stood at the instant call of the Chapter through the early struggles, the middle life and down to the building of the house, keeping a guiding hand and helpful influence in chapter affairs".

Five days after the installation of Gamma Mu, in the spring of 1902, Belfield instituted the third Chapter of the triad established in his Division within a three-weeks' period, bringing Gamma Nu into existence at the University of Michigan. In its ultimate development the University of Michigan was similar in many respects to the other state universities of the trio entered almost simultaneously by Sigma Nu. Its early history, however, was decidedly unique, especially as it affected the development of fraternity life. Michigan established its State University at Ann Arbor in 1836. The legislature was somewhat more bounteous than those in other states in early support of higher education. As a result the University gained outstanding prominence as the most promising pioneer in the western educational field, recognition of the fact influencing most of the fraternities of Eastern origin to establish Chapters there before the Civil War. Of the eight fraternities in existence when the Hellenic invasion of Ann Arbor began, seven of them composed the pioneer colony at Michigan, only one a fraternity of Western origin. Consequently there was implanted the influence of early Eastern fraternity life which long dominated Greek-letter society activities and aspirations at the University of Michigan. Undoubtedly this clash with the more democratic spirit of Western ways was in large measure responsible for the bitter "fraternity war" and other developments, which made Michigan's early fraternity history replete with tense situations.

Conflicting claims give priority of establishment at the University of Michigan to Chi Psi and Beta Theta Pi, both of which entered in the fall of 1845. Alpha Delta Phi, which had been petitioned in 1844, granted a charter there in 1846. Chi Psi that year built the first house ever owned by a fraternity, a log cabin in a forest near Ann Arbor. Following one of the perpetrators of a college prank one night a member of the faculty discovered this secret retreat, into which he was denied admittance. This incident marked the beginning of the famous "fraternity war", in which members of these three organizations participated. Faculty antagonism previously had been registered in a prohibitory rule which had been invoked in an attempt to drive out fraternities. Expulsions and withdrawals followed. A mass meeting of citizens in the court house demonstrated that the majority of residents supported the students, most of the limited number at that time being fraternity members. The fight was carried to the legislature, where fraternity members sought remedial measures through a constitutional convention. Before this assembly was held the faculty yielded to public sentiment, ceased its antagonism to fraternities and repealed the adverse ruling that had precipitated this "fraternity war".

Of these three pioneer fraternities at Michigan, Chi Psi and Alpha Delta Phi have existed without interruption. Beta Theta Pi became dormant in 1850,

but revived in 1854. In 1865 the Chapter deserted and joined Psi Upsilon, becoming the charter members of the seventh fraternity of Eastern origin established at Michigan, Delta Kappa Epsilon and Delta Phi having entered in 1855, Zeta Psi and Sigma Phi in 1858. Phi Delta Theta established in 1864, but the



A. MILLER BELFIELD, BETA ZETA
Alumnus of the Purdue Chapter, a leader in one of the most important extension movements in the Fraternity's history. Later he served in the offices of Grand Counselor and Vice Regent.

Chapter was short-lived, and with the desertion of the Chapter of Beta Theta Pi the field was left entirely to the seven strong Eastern fraternities. Delta Tau Delta and Sigma Chi made futile attempts to get a foothold at Ann Arbor about 1870, Delta Tau Delta succeeding five years later and Sigma Chi in 1877. Phi Kappa Psi and Delta Upsilon date successful foundings in 1876. Chi Phi entered in 1882, but survived only three years. Phi Gamma Delta established in 1885. Alpha Tau Omega followed in 1888, but lived only a short

time, reviving in later years. Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Theta Delta Chi established in 1889 and Kappa Sigma in 1892.

The entrance of fraternities of Western and Southern origin had little effect on the situation at Ann Arbor for many years, except to accentuate manifestations of Eastern fraternity control. In time this element harmonized in general fraternity relationships, but the impress of tradition was never effaced as an influence on fraternity life at the University of Michigan. It was observation of this fact that discouraged Rawson Bennett from attempting to establish Sigma Nu at Ann Arbor while attending the University during the college year 1885-86. Others less calculating proposed entrance in later years when Sigma Nus were matriculated at Michigan. But it was not until during the college year 1901-02 that a successful effort was launched.



WALTER F. MORRISON
GAMMA CHI-GAMMA NU
Member of the University of Washington Chapter, a disciple of Carl Lane Clemans, who became a leader in the founding of the University of Michigan Chapter.

The impulse from which this movement generated was the result of a chance meeting on the campus during the spring of 1901, when William F. Atterholt and Joseph E. Antram, both from the Mount Union Chapter, agreed with Earl A. Forkner, Beta Eta, Indiana, to make an effort to start a Chapter of Sigma Nu at Ann Arbor in the fall. Walter F. Morrison, Gamma Chi, University of Washington, planning to enter Michigan in the fall of 1901, corresponded with Atterholt, whose presence at the University had been mentioned in *The Delta*, and a meeting upon their arrival at Ann Arbor was arranged. As a result Atterholt, Morrison and Forkner secured rooms in the same block, which became the meeting place for Sigma Nus who entered Michigan that fall. Charles Burgess and John Bradfield, both from the Purdue Chapter, joined the movement and assisted in locating other members. Atterholt inserted a notice in the daily, calling a meeting of Sigma Nus in his room. Fifteen members representing nine Chapters were assembled.

It was a matter of debate whether the group should function merely as an alumni chapter or whether a collegiate charter should be sought. On the occasion of the Michigan-Ohio State football game in October, Beta Nu at Ohio State invited the alumni at Ann Arbor to be their guests. Atterholt and Morrison made the trip primarily to discuss plans with Grand Treasurer Heywood, who had been in correspondence with them. Walter J. Sears participated in this conference at Columbus, and with Heywood strongly urged Atterholt and Morrison to organize a petitioning group. This appeal, communicated by

Atterholt and Morrison to their associates, was insufficient to win the alumni to final decision at that time, and it was not until a visit from Division Inspector Belfield early in the year 1902 that it was decided to form a petitioning organization.

Action began immediately with the pledging of Harold Hooker, Morrison's roommate from Spokane, Washington. Forkner's roommate, Carl M. Marston, was next pledged. The alumni wisely decided to avoid the casualty experienced at other places where affiliate control had prevented the creation of a chapter spirit. Hooker and Marston at once were invested with responsibilities, the alumni assisting as needed. These two pledges then became the unalloyed nucleus of the petitioning organization. Irrepressible Harold Hooker was the dispeller of discouragements and became the fraternal hub of the pledge group. Industrious Carl Marston, the detail man, took charge of petitioning responsibilities. With the acquisition of a third pledge, Wesley H. DuBois, a petition was promulgated, including with these three prospects the names of eight Sigma Nus who expected to return to Michigan the next year. The petition was sent out in May, 1902, and received favorable action before the year-end adjournment.



GEORGE A. SMITH, BETA ZETA
Member of the Purdue Chapter whose activity in the founding of Chapters at the Universities of Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan inaugurated a career of service that culminated in his election to the regency.

The installation of Gamma Nu Chapter was held June 12, 1902, in a hall at Ann Arbor rented for the occasion, a chapter house leased for the next year not then being available. Division Inspector A. Miller Belfield, installing officer, was assisted by Milton Frye, Commander of Gamma Beta at Northwestern, and George A. Smith, Beta Zeta, a native of the State of Michigan, who had just been graduated from Purdue. Both of these assistants of Belfield previously had co-operated with him, Frye having helped install Gamma Nu at Illinois and Smith having visited both Wisconsin and Illinois to investigate the prospects before charters were granted. This was the third time in three weeks that Belfield had left his professional duties in Chicago to install a Chapter, his sixth journey in five months in behalf of Sigma Nu.

The charter members of Gamma Nu Chapter were: affiliates—Walter F. Morrison, Gamma Chi; John C. Bradfield, Beta Zeta; Charles H. Burgess, Beta Zeta; Thomas F. Birmingham, Delta Theta; Earl A. Forkner, Beta Eta; Ralph D. Goodrich and Clinton McGee, Gamma Gamma; initiates—Harold Hooker, Carl

M. Marston, Wesley H. DuBois, Charles B. Morden, Arie A. Corwin, Henry I. Flanders and Clifford C. H. Matthews. It was merited recognition that Walter Morrison's name was placed at the head of Gamma Nu's roll. Atterholt deserves credit for initiative in the formation of the Alumni Chapter of which he became president. But he did not plan to return the next year and consequently did not affiliate as a member of Gamma Nu, which was not installed until com-



EDWARD G. HOFFMAN



GUY M. JOHNSON

Campus leaders of the University of Michigan Chapter, who helped bring Gamma Nu into prominence early in its history.

mencement week. Morrison was the aggressive spirit who from the first pursued the idea of converting the alumni organization into a Collegiate Chapter, and with consistent devotion he took the lead in planning Gamma Nu's beginning.

Before the charter was assured a seventeen-room furnished residence was leased for a year, although there were not men in prospect to fill it and no money was assured to operate it. Faith was not wanting, however, and in the face of difficulties encountered the confidence of those that assumed personal responsibility for the lease was sustained by such success that before the end of its first year Gamma Nu had contracted to buy a home. Fifteen names were added to the chapter roll during that inaugural year, two of these additions being affiliates. The most significant acquisition was Edward G. Hoffman, president of the senior law class and Michigan's champion debater that year. A host of splendid fellows, famed in fraternity circles beyond the realm of Gamma Nu, were made members of Sigma Nu during the Chapter's organiza-

tion period. One of the foremost among those who brought Sigma Nu quickly into prominence on the University of Michigan campus was Guy M. Johnson, who coached the Varsity baseball team during his collegiate years at Michigan and who was hailed as one of the most popular students of his time. Guy Johnson was Gamma Nu's first delegate to a Grand Chapter.

No similar development in the history of the Fraternity inspired more respect both within and outside the organization than the immediate success which attended the beginnings of the three Chapters established in the spring of 1902. In the two-year period between the Tenth and the Eleventh Grand Chapters eight important foundings had been consummated, compassing a broad field of conquest, including Cornell University in the East, the University of Colorado in the West and the University of Kentucky in the South. This period marked the high tide of extension achievement during the administration of Grand Recorder Woods, corresponding to the two-year period during Harrington's time, when Sigma Nu pioneered on the Pacific Coast and crossed the Ohio River in its northern advance.

A third of a century had passed since the birth of the Fraternity. A fitting time it was to render accounting to the Founders for the talents they had bestowed.

CHAPTER XXVI

The Heroic Epoch of Sigma Nu

A GREAT spiritual awakening that brought the Fraternity to renewed appreciation of its fundamental purpose and basic ideals signalized the meeting of the Eleventh Grand Chapter at the Denison Hotel in Indianapolis, December 31, 1902, January 1-2, 1903. On that occasion Founders James Frank Hopkins and Greenfield Quarles met at the first gathering of Sigma Nus either of them had attended since parting after their graduation in 1870. John Alexander Howard, Founder of *The Delta* and one of the eight members who attended the First Convention of Sigma Nu, completed a trio of revered notables whose presence inspired the greatest emotional event in the history of the Fraternity. The personnel of this Grand Chapter was further dignified by the attendance of many who had won distinction in service for Sigma Nu and who came to reconsecrate their fraternity spirit in communion with the Founders.

The Eleventh Grand Chapter was presided over by Vice Regent George M. Cook. Its legislation was not of a positive character, its most important action having been in what was rejected rather than in the adoption of any revolutionary measures. A tax was approved for the payment of transportation of collegiate delegates to Grand Chapters. The Fraternity was redivided into eleven Divisions, contemplating a more thorough supervision by Inspectors. The Law was given studied revision, section by section, under the able direction of Inspector A. Miller Belfield, who bore the exacting responsibilities of chairman of the jurisprudence committee and who again was assigned the task of annotating, codifying and indexing the Law for publication. A charter was granted for the revival of Beta Phi Chapter at Tulane University and for a new Chapter at the Missouri School of Mines.

The most absorbing business of the Eleventh Grand Chapter was the final disposition of the status of Epsilon Chapter at Bethany College. Denied the right to initiate and doomed to extinction with the departure of its last member from College, for more than two years Epsilon in the face of this decree had maintained its chapter life with great credit, while its display of Sigma Nu devotion had not been exceeded by any Chapter in the Fraternity. Fred M. Gordon again represented Epsilon, this time being supported by George A. Waddle, the Chapter's scholastic and forensic leader. They came with a petition requesting full charter rights for Epsilon. By argument and through technical maneuvering opponents sought to defeat their aims. But every test of voting strength revealed a great majority in favor of the Bethany men, and with only seven votes dissenting the reissuance of Epsilon's charter was authorized. Past Regent Rawson Bennett led the fight for Epsilon and in a studied review of the

Eleventh Grand Chapter analyzed the result with the following conclusions:

"So much for what the Eleventh Grand Chapter did. On the whole it was very well done, but to me the importance of the meeting was rather in what it showed Sigma Nu to be, and in its illustration of the spirit of the Fraternity and in the devotion of the delegates to that spirit.

"The most striking illustration of that spirit was in the disposition of the Epsilon case, and in what seems to me the spiritual significance of that disposition. In an age widely upbraided for its materialistic tendencies, by the vote of its Grand Chapter Sigma Nu proved its devotion to ideals. It refused to judge a college and it refused to judge men by the inch rule of material plant and endowments. It looked upon Epsilon and said: 'Here are men worthy to be Sigma Nus. The college that attracts and trains such men, no matter how meager its equipment and how lean its purse, is not unworthy to hold a Chapter of our Fraternity. On the contrary it is highly worthy!'



GEORGE A. WADDLE, EPSILON
Brilliant champion of the Bethany College Chapter, largely responsible for the restoration of Epsilon's charter. Later he became an Inspector and assisted in Chapter foundings.

"In the power that the Grand Chapter then and there showed to judge not by wealth nor by any material standard of manhood, there is to me the best proof of the glory, and the perpetuity of our Fraternity."

George M. Cook was advanced to the regency; Inspector Charles W. Jones was made Vice Regent; and Grand Treasurer Heywood and Grand Recorder Woods were re-elected by the Eleventh Grand Chapter. The following Inspectors were chosen: Division I, William T. McCarthy, Pi; II, William J. Howard, Beta; III, William L. Kemp, Mu; IV, Harry B. Marsh, Beta Zeta; V, A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta; VI, Eugene F. Consigny, Beta Mu; VII, John B. Pew, Beta Xi; VIII, Charles K. Fuqua, Phi; IX, Lodford Truman, Omicron; X, Harry C. Coffman, Gamma Chi; XI, Edwin C. Hammer, Beta Psi.

The presence of the Founders at the Eleventh Grand Chapter created an atmosphere of fraternal feeling that was manifest throughout in both its business and social aspects. From the dramatic moment when Founder Hopkins, the first to arrive, entered the opening session a succession of stirring incidents marked the three days of fellowship, ending with an inspiring scene when the Founders spoke their farewell sentiments. The climax of this soul-stirring convention came at the banquet on New Year's Eve when rings bearing the

emblem of Sigma Nu were presented to the three honor guests. Founder Hopkins, when tendered the token in a touching speech by Walter Sears, was overcome for the moment by the tribute, tears instead of words expressing his feeling, others being moved to deep emotions by the affecting scene. Recovering his composure Founder Hopkins took his class ring from the finger from which he declared it had not been removed since graduation. "But now," he added feelingly, "with all the loving attachment that I feel for it, with all its significance to me, I take it off and give its place to this beautiful golden circlet that is emblematic of the love of five thousand boys."

In a review of this Grand Chapter its manifestations were regarded by Walter J. Sears in the following words:

"The Eleventh Grand Chapter not only realized all the Ideals of the Fraternity, but it actualized all the hopes and ambitions, the spirit and purpose of the organic struggle throughout the years of its growth. In doing this, it came into that supreme moment of its self-conscious life which always marks the highest tide, the noblest achievement of every human struggle. And thus it is that this Grand Chapter must herald the beginning of the Heroic Epoch, the Golden Age of the Sigma Nu Fraternity."

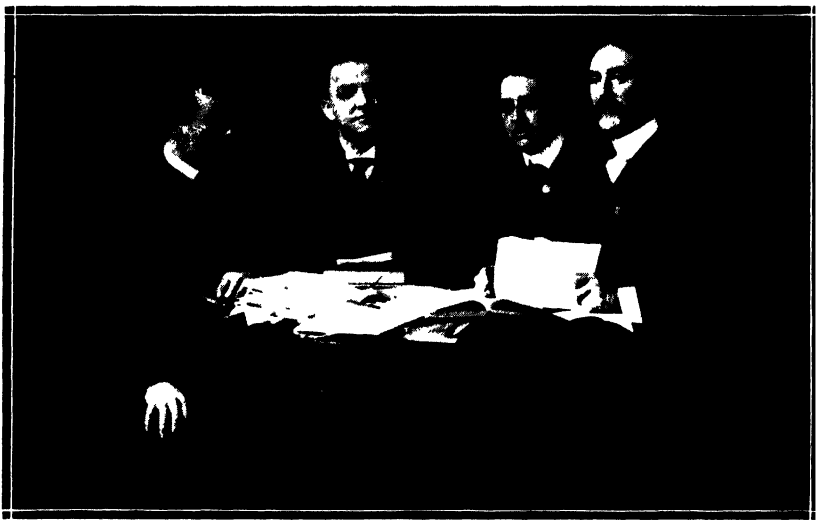


WALTER J. SEARS, NU-BETA NU
His growing influence in affairs of Sigma Nu became marked during the biennial period 1900-02. This picture appeared in *The Delta* accompanying an installment of Sears' "Letters to My College Fraternity."

In the fundamental forces responsible for developments of this period there was no stronger factor than the growing influence of Walter J. Sears. As early as 1896, in an article in *The Delta* on "Remedial Legislation", Sears had advocated administrative reforms which were embraced in the rebuilt financial system of the Fraternity. His inspiring and constructive writings on general fraternity subjects for years had featured *The Delta* and were highly regarded throughout the fraternity world. The most notable of his literary contributions of that time were his "Letters to My College Fraternity", a series of eight papers, the first of which was published in *The Delta* of May, 1901. As chaptermate and intimate friend Sears was closely associated with Grand Treasurer Heywood and thus his influence was also manifest in the financial offices of the Fraternity.

The work of Grand Treasurer Heywood during this period was not confined to financial matters, the office of catalogue editor having been taken over by him. In 1903 Heywood issued the third edition of the catalogue, a volume of

three hundred and ninety pages. In connection with its preparation he compiled the first complete card index record of the membership. As Editor of *The Delta*, Grand Recorder Woods produced a magazine during this period which was unexcelled in the realm of fraternity journalism, a publication eminently in keeping with the material advance of the organization and full of expression of the spirit and the ideals of Sigma Nu. Woods was at the height of his popularity as an official at that time and his contagious enthusiasm for Sigma Nu was widely disseminated. There was splendid harmony between the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder and this spirit of co-operation was largely responsible for auspicious developments.



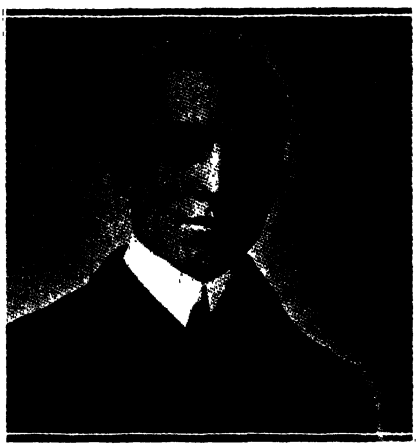
THE HIGH COUNCIL, 1902-04
Left to right—Grand Treasurer Ferd H. Heywood, Beta Nu; Regent George M. Cook, Beta Eta; Vice Regent Charles W. Jones, Beta Mu; Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods, Zeta.

The Chapter at Missouri School of Mines, authorized by the Eleventh Grand Chapter, was installed January 23, 1903. This institution, a branch of the University of Missouri, was established at Rolla in 1871. The Chapter established there was organized through the instrumentality of Abner C. Birney, Rho, University of Missouri, and Daniel F. Steck, Beta Mu, University of Iowa. In the fall of 1902 William C. Wyman, who had been a high school classmate of Birney and Steck, entered the Missouri School of Mines. Desiring to have Wyman a member of their Fraternity, Birney and Steck started a movement to place a Chapter at Rolla. The assistance of Inspector Jones was secured and through two members of Sigma Nu attending the Missouri School of Mines, Ray F. Rucker, Rho, University of Missouri, and John T. Rice, Gamma Eta, Colorado School of Mines, the effort was inaugurated. Cecil T. Green, a pledge from the Chapter at William Jewell College, was enlisted in the movement.

Eight more pledges became secretly allied with the founding group, whose petition was presented at the Eleventh Grand Chapter by Inspector Jones.

The installation of Gamma Xi Chapter was held in the Masonic Temple in Rolla on January 23, 1903. Inspector John B. Pew was in charge, assisted by C. W. Jones, who had become Vice Regent. Birney and Steck were present to welcome their friend Wyman into fellowship in Sigma Nu and to witness the advent of the new Chapter which had been conceived through this triple friendship. The ten men initiated, who with Ray F. Rucker and John T. Rice became the charter members of Gamma Xi Chapter, were Cecil T. Green, Glenn B. Morgan, Royal S. Webster, John H. Clary, John O. Ambler, William C. Wyman, Charles G. Landreth, Charles D. Smith, John T. Keenan and Charles M. Hummel.

Sigma Nu was the first fraternity to enter the Missouri School of Mines. The Chapter was cordially welcomed by members of the faculty who were invited to the installation banquet. The student body proved viciously antagonistic, however, and as soon as it became known that a fraternity had been organized in their midst extreme measures were adopted to show their resentment. Members of Sigma Nu who held offices in athletic and class organizations were deposed, this action, which was entirely impersonal, being due to a misunderstanding of the purposes of fraternities. Kappa Alpha (S) and Kappa Sigma entered later in the year, converting several erstwhile opponents into fraternity men, and thus in time student opposition became controlled. All the charter members of Gamma Xi remained faithful regardless of the sacrifice of official positions, and through the resistance that developed their fraternity ties were strengthened. Upon this foundation of loyalty Gamma Xi has since builded consistently.



JOHN B. PEW, BETA XI
Member of the Chapter at William Jewell College, who became prominent through his activity as a Division Inspector.

The revival of Beta Phi Chapter at Tulane University, rechartered by the Eleventh Grand Chapter, was officially conducted by Inspector Charles K. Fuqua on April 13, 1903. The six affiliates, who then renewed collegiate activity of Sigma Nu in New Orleans, were Lester J. Williams, Phi; Earle F. Moody, Theta; Ruffin C. Claiborne, Phi; Frank F. Blair, Theta; Thomas S. Jones, Phi; and Charles J. Mueller, Phi-Rho. Mueller was one of the most aggressive workers in promoting this revival. The connection of Lester J. Williams with the movement was sufficient to insure its success. With the same enthusiasm for Sigma Nu that had made him an outstanding figure in the history of Phi Chapter, Williams became a leader in the revived Beta Phi. The

new Chapter in time suffered from the causes of the fatal decline of the original Tulane Chapter, the transient student life and the exacting demands of professional schools. Threatening crises were bridged, however, and Beta Phi's existence has been continuous since the 1903 revival.

The sixth Chapter established by Sigma Nu in the State of Missouri was installed at Washington University, St. Louis, in the spring of 1903. Its organization came through the efforts of Russell I. Tolson, Beta Lambda, Central College of Missouri, who entered the law department of Washington University in the fall of 1902. C. W. Jones, then Inspector, visited St. Louis and urged Tolson to undertake the formation of this Chapter, and to this diligent missionary of Sigma Nu credit is due for inspiring the movement. Tolson was assisted in the organizing work by Albert M. Brown, Beta Nu, Ohio State University, who also was in the law department of Washington University. The University was then in its fiftieth year and plans for its removal to the site of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition had been given wide publicity. Five fraternities were then in the field, Beta Theta Pi having entered in 1869, Phi Delta Theta in 1891, Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1892, Kappa Sigma in 1902 and Sigma Chi in 1903.



LESTER J. WILLIAMS, PHI-BETA PHI Leader in the 1903 revival of Beta Phi Chapter at Tulane University.

The installation of this Chapter of Sigma Nu at Washington University, designated as Gamma Omicron Chapter, was held in the Odd Fellows building in St. Louis on May 23, 1903. Inspector John B. Pew was in charge, with Vice-Regent Jones assisting. Most of the charter members of Gamma Xi, the four-months' old Chapter at Missouri School of Mines, attended and St. Louis alumni were well represented. Those initiated, who with Russell I. Tolson and Albert M. Brown became charter members of Gamma Omicron Chapter, were John C. Comley, Fred W. Reinhardt, Thomas N. Dysart, Claude M. Erwin, Arthur E. Dennis, August V. Graf, Charles H. L. Cossell and Edgar P. Hellmuth. The close of the college year came soon after installation and chapter activity did not begin until the opening of the fall term.

Most of the charter members of Gamma Omicron were in the professional schools, then located in different parts of the city. Failure of half of them to return in the fall was a warning against hope of maintaining a Chapter without strong undergraduate support. William J. Burcham and Glover Johns, who had signed the petition, but left before the installation, were initiated early in the fall along with Elvin D. George, all three of whom were students in

professional schools. Of the five charter members who returned Tolson and Reinhardt were in the law school, Dennis, Graf and Cossell being the only members of the Chapter in the undergraduate department.

It was soon evident that Gamma Omicron would have no sustaining chapter life under such circumstances, and it was determined to build up the undergraduate representation. The initiation of Edward F. Paddock, Woodlief Thomas and Stephen R. Culbertson followed, and with the acquirement of quarters near the undergraduate department the real chapter life of Gamma Omicron began. When the University was moved to its new location the next year the entire section of the dormitory known as the Tower was secured and furnished by the Chapter, and Sigma Nu took a forward position in fraternity life at Washington University.

From the date of the founding of Gamma Omicron in May, 1903, there were no additions to the chapter roll of Sigma Nu until February, 1904, when the culmination of efforts of three High Council members resulted in three new Chapters and an important revival, the four installations occurring within a period of sixty days. The first to materialize was Gamma Pi at West Virginia University, a State institution established in 1868 at Morgantown, on the east bank of the Monongahela River, ten miles from the Pennsylvania State line. Kappa Sigma was first to place a Chapter there, entering in 1883, but existing only four years. Phi Kappa Psi made a permanent entry in 1890; Phi Sigma Kappa in 1891; Sigma Chi in 1895; Phi Kappa Sigma in 1896; Kappa Alpha (S) in 1897; Beta Theta Pi in 1900; Delta Tau Delta in 1901; and Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1903.

The progenitor of Sigma Nu at West Virginia University was the Alfred Guild, an organization formed in 1902, which drew its original membership almost entirely from the Parthenon Literary Society and the purpose of which was to seek out and perpetuate all the best things in Old English culture. Within a year the members of Alfred Guild became divided over a proposal that the organization seek national fraternity affiliation. The majority favoring the move then became involved in a controversy over the choice of the fraternity to be petitioned.

Robert R. Green, a member of Epsilon Chapter, Bethany College, moved to Morgantown about that time, when his father became Greek professor at the University. Through the urgent solicitation of Grand Recorder Woods, Green agreed to attempt the formation of a Chapter of Sigma Nu at Morgantown. Two brothers who were members of Alfred Guild, Joseph A. and William C. Gist, had attended Bethany College before entering the University of West Virginia and had been "rushed" by Epsilon Chapter. Through them Robert Green formed contact with the Alfred Guild and his persistence won the decision for Sigma Nu over the advocates of another fraternity which had been approached through one of the professors, a member of that fraternity.

Grand Recorder Woods, who was in Washington as secretary to one of Kentucky's senators at that time, visited the prospective petitioners with whom he

had been in frequent correspondence, thrilling them with the inspiration of his Sigma Nu devotion and assuring them of his hearty support. Charles H. Ambler, one of the group, went to Washington later and with Woods prepared an elaborate printed petition which won the charter for Gamma Pi Chapter. The installation was held in the Odd Fellows hall in Morgantown on February 23, 1904, and was in charge of Inspector Harry B. Marsh. Several alumni and collegiate members of the Mount Union and Bethany Chapters attended. The ten charter members initiated were W. Espey Albig, Charles H. Ambler, George W. Coffield, Reardon S. Cotton, Joseph A. Gist, William C. Gist, Warren H. Hodges, Jedidiah W. Robinson, Henry M. Schrader and William E. Scott. Thus by founding Gamma Pi did the new Epsilon Chapter, so soon after its rechartering, prove worthy heir to the tradition of old Epsilon, the parent of Pi at Lehigh and of Rho at the University of Missouri.

While in Washington during the winter of 1903-04 Grand Recorder Woods received a letter from the ever-vigilant A. H. Wilson informing him that "Danny" Coogan, charter member of Beta Rho, had returned to the University of Pennsylvania as baseball coach and suggesting that it would be a good time to attempt the revival of Beta Rho Chapter. Woods wrote Coogan immediately and received an enthusiastic response, Coogan asserting that with some assistance he and Charles S. Jack, one of Beta Rho's charter members, were ready to aid in reviving Sigma Nu at Pennsylvania. Charles Jack was very prominent socially and professionally in Philadelphia and was a "prince" in Coogan's estimation. It was known that several members of Sigma Nu then were attending the University of Pennsylvania. Woods copied Coogan's statement pertinent to the proposed revival and sent it to the Chapters, requesting addresses of members attending the University. As a result the names of six Sigma Nus matriculated there were made known.

Coogan called a meeting of these men, which was held in the room of Mark Townsend, Gamma Epsilon, Lafayette. Townsend became a leading spirit in the movement. At a second meeting attended by Grand Recorder Woods and several members of the Lehigh and Lafayette Chapters definite plans for the revival of Beta Rho were decided upon. Five pledges were secured and in April a printed petition was sent out and received approval. Those signing the petition and becoming the charter members of the revived Beta Rho Chapter were Robert L. Payne, Psi, North Carolina; William T. Ellis, Lambda, Washington and Lee; Robert M. Martin and William B. Fleming, Beta Theta, Alabama Polytechnic; Rene Granger, Kappa, North Georgia; and Mark Townsend, Gamma Epsilon, Lafayette, affiliates; and Leslie M. Hay, Frank H. Hobson, Thomas G. Young, Charles Earhardt and Samuel S. Herman, who were initiated the night of the installation.

The installation of the revived Beta Rho Chapter was held at the Rittenhouse Hotel, May 25, 1904. "Danny" Coogan was in charge of arrangements and was toastmaster at the banquet. Inspector William T. McCarthy installed the Chapter. He was accompanied by the New York Alumni Chapter's representa-

tive, Robert E. Safford, Beta Nu, Ohio State. Delegations from the Lehigh and Lafayette Chapters were present and assisted in the initiations. Among the alumni who attended were six charter members and initiates of the original Beta Rho, all of whom became famous in University activities. Interest of these early members of Beta Rho in the revival had been evidenced by contributions of fifty dollars each from eight of them, a fund which "Danny" Coogan collected to help finance the revival and to assist in buying furniture for a partly furnished house, in which the new Chapter began its existence.

The service of Grand Recorder Woods in the revival of Beta Rho was recognized in later years when the cozy room in the chapter house was dedicated to



GROUP THAT PLANNED BETA RHO'S REVIVAL
Meeting Held at Philadelphia, March 23, 1904.
Upper row—Kelly, Pi; Keely, Gamma Epsilon; Rohrer, Gamma Epsilon; Ellis, Lambda; Peplow, Hays, Laws, Theis, Gamma Epsilon. Middle row—Walker, Gamma Epsilon; Fleming, Beta Theta; Rafferty, Pi; Coogan, Beta Rho; Grand Recorder C. E. Woods, Zeta; Nichols, Gamma Epsilon. Bottom row—Laubenstein, Pi; Rothermel, Gamma Epsilon; Martin, Beta Theta; Granger, Kappa; Townsend, Gamma Epsilon.

him, and was called the Woods room. Over the fire-place a bronze table was placed bearing the inscription: "Clarence E. Woods, Zeta, 1885."

Regent George M. Cook became the founder of a second Chapter in the State of Illinois with the installation of Gamma Rho at the University of Chicago in the spring of 1904. In the fall of 1903, Cook launched the movement for the return of Sigma Nu to the University of Chicago by calling a meeting of alumni attending the University. This meeting was held in the room of Walter G. Baker, Delta Theta, Lombard, who became Cook's most active aid in the undertaking. Associated with these two in the inaugural plans were Inspector

A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta, Purdue; John D. Bartlett, Delta Theta, Lombard; Francis S. Parks, Beta Eta, Indiana; Ralph Carlisle, Gamma Theta, Cornell; William H. Emmons, Beta Lambda, Central College of Missouri; and Morton L. Hunt, Beta Zeta, Purdue. An organization known as the "Sigma Nu Association" was formed, and before the holidays three new men were pledged. Henry I. Flanders, Gamma Nu, Michigan, entered the University of Chicago at the opening of the winter term, affiliating with the Sigma Nu Association and becoming one of its most industrious workers.



GEORGE M. COOK, BETA ETA,
REGENT 1902-04
Member of the Indiana University Chapter; Inspector 1898-1900; Vice Regent and Inspector General, 1900-02; founder of Gamma Mu, University of Illinois, and of Gamma Rho, University of Chicago.

Regent Cook remained close to the organization throughout the winter, meeting with some of the men almost daily, advising them in the selection of prospects, and inspiring each new pledge with zeal for Sigma Nu. With his natural gift for fraternity work and his genial fellowship, "Dad" Cook built up a responsive organization that reflected his commanding personality and radiated his fraternal spirit. Twelve pledges had been secured, and the Sigma Nu Association was quartered in a furnished house when the petition was sent out in the spring. Feeling assured of its approval, the Regent began at once to plan an installation which would fittingly inaugurate the new Chapter.

The installation of Gamma Rho Chapter was held in the Auditorium Hotel in Chicago, April 15, 1904. Regent Cook presided, and teams from North-

western and the University of Illinois conferred the degrees. Inspector Belfield presented the charter to the new Chapter, signed by its founder as Regent. Past Regent Bennett, Vice Regent Jones and other notables graced the occasion. Neighboring Chapters sent delegations, and in all more than one hundred were in attendance. It was by far the most imposing affair of the kind that had been staged by Sigma Nu, and it gave the new Chapter the impetus it needed to get a start in a field occupied by fourteen rival fraternities.

The charter members of Gamma Rho Chapter were: affiliates, Walter G. Baker, Delta Theta; Francis S. Parks, Beta Eta; Henry I. Flanders, Gamma Nu; Morton L. Hunt, Beta Zeta; and Lee A. Stillman, Gamma Beta; and initiates, Harold M. Barnes, Harry C. Cobb, Harry H. Blodgett, Carl J. Bevan, Herbert E. Wheeler, William E. Wrather, Fred H. Kay, Ulysses R. Emrich, Dudley W. Day, Gustave A. Johnson, John A. Dean and Edson S. Bastin. For four years, while Cook remained a resident of Chicago, he was the constant counselor of Gamma Rho Chapter. His greatest power and his greatest delight was in pledging outstanding students to Sigma Nu. His efforts in this most important service did not cease when Cook was transferred from Chicago. Wherever he abided, in his advance to a place of national prominence in his profession, Cook was always on the lookout for the best material for Sigma Nu, and spared neither time nor expense in the pursuit of this bachelor pastime.

Vice Regent C. W. Jones made an important addition to his record of Chapters founded when, in the spring of 1904, he installed Gamma Sigma Chapter at Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. Iowa State College, as it is generally known, was established at Ames in 1858. Delta Tau Delta placed a Chapter there in 1875, but after existing thirteen years was driven out by antifraternity laws. In 1900 a new president was installed who favored the admission of fraternities. A majority of the faculty and a preponderance of student sentiment opposed removing the restrictions, however, and it was four years before this opposition was overcome. Anticipating the change in attitude, several locals had been organized to petition for charters from national fraternities when the ban was lifted. Sigma Nu was first in the field, but locals petitioning Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Phi Gamma Delta and Alpha Tau Omega were then in existence, and later were granted charters. There were over fourteen hundred matriculates at Iowa State College, ninety per cent of whom were male students.

Sigma Nu's incipient organization at Iowa State College was known as Gamma Tau, the name indicating a miscalculation in the order of Chapter nomenclature from which the new Chapter was expected to get its Greek-letter designation. Clyde and Paul Smith, brothers-in-law of Carl Lane Clemans, were leaders in the petitioning group, and it was through them that Sigma Nu was proposed as an objective. Vice Regent Jones was conferred with, and by his invaluable assistance in directing the efforts of the petitioners and in sponsoring their petition, he became recognized as the Chapter's founder.

Gamma Sigma was installed in its own chapter house on April 23, 1904.

Vice Regent Jones officiated, assisted by members of his Chapter from the University of Iowa, a total of twenty alumni and collegiate members of Beta Mu being in attendance. The fifteen charter members of Gamma Sigma, initiated that night, were Clyde W. Smith, James E. Cotton, Clinton B. Wilson, Joseph H. Galley, Arthur L. Evans, Claude E. Curtis, Paul Smith, Raymond M. Al-



CHARLES W. JONES, BETA MU
VICE REGENT, 1902-04
Alumnus of the University of Iowa Chapter, for many years one of the most energetic and enthusiastic workers in Sigma Nu. Chapters from the Great Lakes region to the Rocky Mountains section had the benefit of contact with his fraternal spirit during their installations.

vord, Carl H. Frechtling, Otis L. Leefers, James L. Cutter, Harry C. White, Chauncey W. Pitts, Ira P. Mabie and LeRoy W. Shotwell. Being the first national fraternity to establish a Chapter permanently at Iowa State College, Sigma Nu faced a still-unfriendly student majority. The rapid development of the field soon counteracted this sentiment, however, and "Ames" became a popular fraternity center in which most organizations of truly national representation established Chapters.

The activity of Vice Regent Jones in extension work was the most notable feature in the development of Sigma Nu in the interim between the Eleventh and Twelfth Grand Chapters. During that two-year period, the assiduous "C. W." was directly or indirectly responsible for the founding of five Chapters. The fifth to experience the inspiration of his presence at installation, while Jones was Vice Regent, was Gamma Tau, established at the University of Minnesota in December, 1904. The University of Minnesota, founded at Minneapolis in 1868, attracted Chi Psi from its somewhat restricted Eastern confines in 1874. Phi Delta Theta entered in 1881; Delta Tau Delta in 1883; Sigma Chi and Phi Kappa Psi in 1888; Phi Gamma Delta, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Upsilon, Delta Kappa Epsilon and Psi Upsilon in 1890; Theta Delta Chi and Alpha Delta Phi in 1892; Zeta Psi in 1899; Kappa Sigma in 1901; Alpha Tau Omega and Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1902.

The organization which Sigma Nu chartered at the University of Minnesota was known originally as Kappa Phi Beta, a local formed for the purpose of seeking national affiliation. It was conceived by Donald S. Blair, a student, to whom the mysterious workings of Greek-letter fraternities had a strong appeal. Under the spell of his fancy, the weird and the picturesque were involved in the development of the local society, which had its birth in an isolated building several miles from the campus, where, amidst the accompaniment of the elements in a rain storm, the solemn vows were whispered. Blair first revealed his plan to an associate, Charles E. Mordoff, and these two plotted secretly the organization that bound fourteen students into secret fellowship. It was due to Donald Blair's study of fraternities unrepresented at the University of Minnesota that Sigma Nu was selected as the goal of their fraternal ambitions.

A letter was sent to Gamma Rho Chapter, University of Chicago, requesting information about petitioning procedure. The communication was handed to Inspector Belfield, who sent it to Inspector Consigny, and within a week it reached Vice Regent Jones. The readiness of this devotee to respond to a call for Sigma Nu was revealed in a telegram sent to the prospective petitioners, who were startled by the announcement that the Vice Regent would arrive the next day. About this time it was discovered that two members of Chi Chapter, Cornell College, Iowa, were attending the University of Minnesota, Ralph S. Stanberry, a senior law student, and Clarence G. Yoran, in his first year of the law department. They at once affiliated with the movement, and later with the Chapter, Stanberry becoming first Commander.

Gamma Tau was installed December 10, 1904, after having received the unanimous vote of the Chapters. The ceremonies were held in the parlors of the Nicollet Hotel in Minneapolis. Vice Regent Jones officiated, assisted by Stanberry and Edwin D. Solenberger, a resident alumnus of Gamma Beta Chapter, Northwestern, who had taken an active interest in the petition. Donald S. Blair and Charles E. Mordoff were initiated first, in recognition of their connection as the founders of the local. The other charter members then initiated were Clinton A. Boreen, Charles W. Rossman, Allen L. McAfee, Carroll K.

Michener, Melvin S. Nelson, Leon A. Barney, Carlton P. Olsen, Robert G. Colyer, Arthur L. Kreitter, Arthur W. Strangeland, Neils Rahr and Rollin H. Schutz. Clarence G. Yoran and Ralph S. Stanberry affiliated as charter members number eleven and twelve, respectively.

Among those attending the installation of Gamma Tau was Willoughby M. Babcock, Beta Alpha, Yale, a prominent attorney of Minneapolis, whose connection with the Chapter became very close. As counselor during its early years, his service was extended until he became supervisor of Gamma Tau's fiscal affairs, and in later years the fraternal connection was happily betokened when he gave a son to the Chapter. The relationship of Vice Regent Jones with Gamma Tau was more than official. As in other places where this whole-souled servant of Sigma Nu had installed Chapters, Jones remained several days with Gamma Tau, directing its inaugural activities and inspiring the charter members with enthusiasm and zeal for the Fraternity. The inspiration of his fellowship helped unite the charter members of Gamma Tau into a fraternal association that for a score of years was delightfully perpetuated among those who remained resident in Minneapolis.

Another new State was brought into the realm of Sigma Nu in December, 1904, when Gamma Upsilon Chapter was installed at the University of Arkansas. This institution, established at Fayetteville in 1872, was entered by Alpha Tau Omega in 1882, the Chapter dying out the same year. Kappa Sigma entered in 1890; Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1894; and Kappa Alpha (S) in 1895. A law passed by the legislature prohibiting fraternities at the State University later caused these organizations to become known as clubs. In 1902, a group of students who attended the Episcopal Church at Fayetteville, and others who were intimate friends of the rector of that Church, organized the Owl Club. During the college year 1902-03, fraternity opposition subsided, and with the return of Greek-letter societies to open existence the Owl Club changed its name to the Alpha Gamma fraternity.

After existing a year as a local Greek-letter society, the members of Alpha Gamma decided to seek national connection. Copies of several fraternity magazines were secured and perused for the purpose of deciding what organization they would petition. *The Delta,* then conspicuous among Greek-letter fraternity journals, appealed to the members of Alpha Gamma so strongly that they wrote Grand Recorder Woods, requesting information about petitioning Sigma Nu. They were referred to Division Inspector Charles K. Fuqua. As the result of correspondence with Fuqua, a petition was prepared and submitted to the Fraternity during the college year 1903-04, but it failed to receive the votes necessary for acceptance.

Out of resultant despair came a ray of hope from Regent Cook, who wrote that the make-up of the petition, its deficiencies in contents and physical appearance, had contributed to its rejection. The Regent suggested that a more creditable petition be prepared and be submitted in the fall of 1904; and that an attempt be made to get endorsements from Founders Hopkins and Quarles, who lived in Arkansas. W. Terry Feild, one of the founders of the Owl Club, then was put in charge of Alpha Gamma's petitioning negotiations. Feild lived

in Little Rock, and the first Sunday after his return home for summer vacation, he rode his bicycle nine miles out to Mablevale, near which town Founder Hopkins lived.

Founder Hopkins was on his way from church to his home, which was a mile from the town, when Feild met him and told of his mission. Feild was given a fraternal welcome into the Hopkins' home, where he spent several hours listening to reminiscences of the beginning of Sigma Nu. Mrs. Hopkins joined in the relation of incidents that had occurred when she was the Founder's cadet sweetheart in Lexington, Virginia. Founder Hopkins gave Feild assurance of



FOUNDER HOPKINS (RIGHT) AND TERRY FEILD, GAMMA UPSILON
Their intimate friendship grew out of mutual interest in the founding of the Chapter at University of Arkansas.

his support in the effort to establish a Chapter at the University of Arkansas. The co-operation of Founder Quarles later was promised, and during the summer and early fall other endorsements were secured. Glenn B. Morgan, Gamma Xi, charter member of the Missouri School of Mines Chapter, was delegated to make an inspection, and reported favorably on the prospects. In the meantime, Vice Regent Jones had assumed supervision over the project, and under his guidance a petition was prepared and sent out in the middle of November. Within a month, the establishment of Gamma Upsilon Chapter was authorized, and immediate installation was planned so that the Chapter could be represented at the Twelfth Grand Chapter, scheduled to meet the next week.

Gamma Upsilon Chapter was installed December 21, 1904, in rooms which had been occupied by the Alpha Gamma local, and which became the new Chapter's meeting place. Charles M. Hummel, Gamma Xi, was installing officer, assisted by John T. Rice and A. Emory Wishon, also from the Missouri School of Mines Chapter. The charter members of Gamma Upsilon whom they

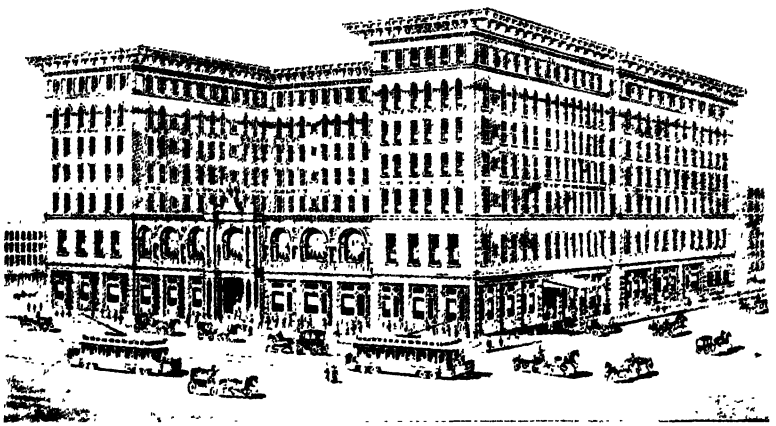


TWELFTH GRAND CHAPTER, NEW ORLEANS, DECEMBER 28-30, 1904

Partial identification, front row, left to right—F. G. Lyons. Phi; Past Vice Regent C. W. Murphey, Lambda; behind him, O. Max Gardner, Beta Tau-Psi; clasping hands, left, Terry M. Richardson, Theta; right, Grand Recorder C. E. Woods, Zeta; between them in second row, Borden Burr, Theta; behind the pennant, Frank M. Zeigler, Alpha; Founder Greenfield Quarles; Regent G. M. Cook, Beta Eta; Vice Regent C. W. Jones, Beta Mu; behind Jones, left, A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta; right, J. Robert Boatman, Zeta. Many delegates and visitors not included in this group.

initiated were W. Terry Feild, John R. Bloom, Thomas E. Trigg, Gordon W. Vaulx, John T. Watsch, Rector D. Mesler, William H. Glover, Edwin C. Boles, Hay L. Green, Thomas C. Mullins, Fred A. Tillman, John H. Hurst, Howell L. Westbrook and Pinckney S. Seamans. Among the lasting impressions left upon these initiates was one made with a branding iron, which burned upon an arm of each of them the Greek letters Sigma Nu, a practice of Gamma Xi Chapter at that period.

Terry Feild was elected to represent the week-old Chapter at the Twelfth Grand Chapter. There he first met Founder Quarles, with whom later he was closely bound in Sigma Nu relationship. The association formed between Founder Hopkins and Terry Feild, in connection with the acquirement of



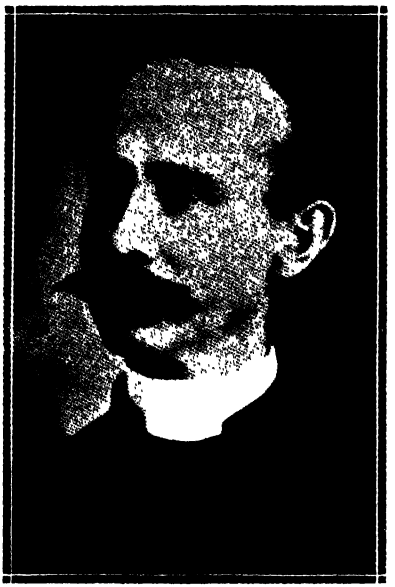
ST. CHARLES HOTEL, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
Meeting place of the Twelfth Grand Chapter, Dec. 28-30, 1904.

Gamma Upsilon's charter, ripened into one of Founder Hopkins' most treasured friendships during his declining years, betokened by the bequest of his badge to Feild. Naturally, Terry Feild became the spiritual leader of Gamma Upsilon, and as an alumnus he remained first in the Chapter's affections.

The Twelfth Grand Chapter met in the Assembly Room of the St. Charles Hotel in New Orleans, December 28-30, 1904. Regent Cook presided until the afternoon session of the second day, when business demands forced his departure. Vice Regent Jones presided over the remaining sessions. The attendance was not as large as at the Eleventh Grand Chapter, but Collegiate Chapter representation was greater, forty-nine of the fifty-three active Chapters sending delegates. Founder Quarles was present, and several other veteran Sigma Nus of the South contributed to the sociability of the gathering, which was the predominating feature of this Grand Chapter. The colorful setting

of New Orleans and the hospitable ways of the Southerners combined to make this convention unique in its social aspects.

The business sessions of the Twelfth Grand Chapter were largely concerned with the consideration of reports of officers and committees. Little legislation was recommended and few changes in the Law were made. The officers of Grand Counselor and Grand Chaplain were created. By enactment, it was



WILLIAM M. WALTON, ALPHA
GRAND CHAPLAIN, 1904-06
Member of the Mother Chapter, initiated during Sigma Nu's second year. He maintained active interest in the Fraternity, and was first to hold the office of Grand Chaplain.



A. MILLER BELFIELD, BETA ZETA
GRAND COUNSELOR, 1904-06
Selected to inaugurate the office of Grand Counselor, following years of service in matters of jurisprudence, including the first codification of the Law, completed in 1898.

specified that the Regent could not succeed himself in office. The time limit for considering petitions was extended from thirty to sixty days. A charter was granted for a Chapter at the University of Montana.

Isadore Dyer, Beta-Beta Phi, distinguished resident of New Orleans, was elected Regent at the Twelfth Grand Chapter. Francis V. Keesling, Beta Chi, California's premier Sigma Nu, was made Vice Regent. Grand Treasurer Heywood and Grand Recorder Woods were re-elected. Walter J. Sears was elected Grand Historian, to which office he had been appointed during the biennial period between the Eleventh and Twelfth Grand Chapters, John Alexander Howard, Founder of *The Delta*, having held this office for fifteen years, 1888-1903. A. Miller Belfield was selected to inaugurate the new office of Grand Counselor. The new office of Grand Chaplain was bestowed upon the Reverend William M. Walton, Alpha '74. The following Division Inspectors were chosen:

I, Horace E. Sibson, Gamma Theta; II, John W. Clifton, Xi-Sigma; III, James W. Harris, Eta; IV, Harry B. Marsh, Beta Zeta; V, Clarence J. Luther, Gamma Beta; VI, Frank W. Crockett, Beta Mu; VII, Ray F. Rucker, Rho-Gamma Xi; VIII, Fred G. Lyons, Phi; IX, Charles R. Hays, Chi-Beta Mu; X, Harry C. Coffman, Gamma Chi; XI, Edwin C. Hammer, Beta Psi; XII, John E. Ramsey, Beta Tau.



FREDERICK H. RICHARDSON
GAMMA CHI
Member of the University of Washington Chapter, who rendered invaluable service in the establishment of Gamma Phi at University of Montana.

Harry C. Coffman was principally responsible for the success of the University of Montana petition at the Twelfth Grand Chapter. This was the third Northwestern State in which Sigma Nu

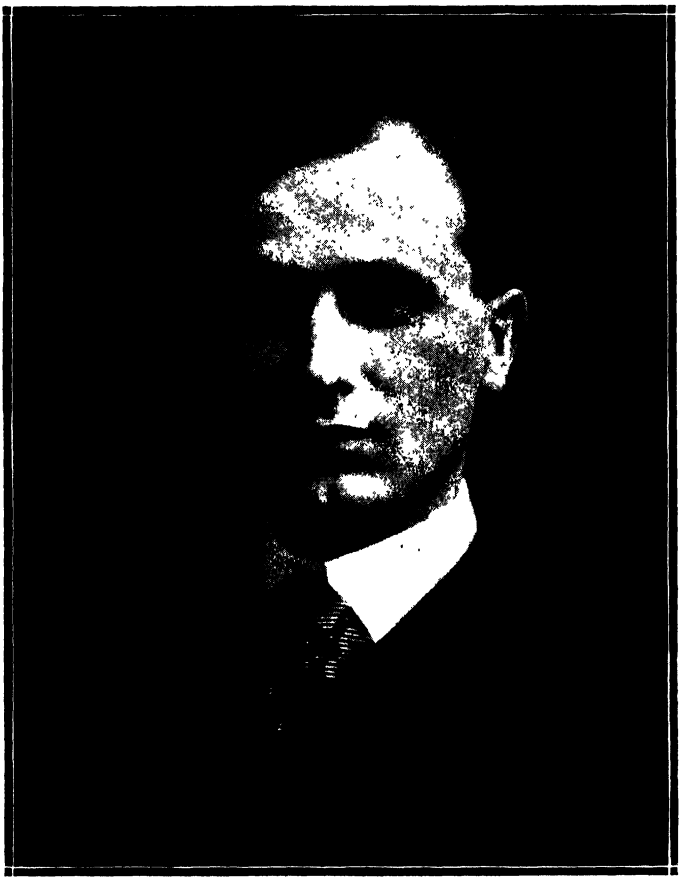


JOHN M. EVANS, RHO
Charter member of the University of Missouri Chapter, resident leader in the founding of Gamma Phi at University of Montana.

was the pioneering fraternity. The University of Montana was then in its tenth year. When the State was admitted to the Union in 1890, a number of college men residing in Missoula started the movement which resulted in locating the University at that place. Among the number was John M. Evans, charter member of Rho Chapter, University of Missouri. Evans later became an official of the state board of education, which controlled the University. Correspondence between him and Inspector Coffman quickened the latter's ambition for Sigma Nu to be the first fraternity to enter Montana, as it was in the States of Washington and Oregon. The University of Idaho and Washington State College were also fields in which Clemans, Coffman and other stalwarts of the Northwest were interested. A fund was raised to finance an inspection trip to these three institutions. Being

unable to leave his post at the University of Washington, Inspector Coffman prevailed upon Frederick H. Richardson, Gamma Chi, to make the trip.

Of the three institutions visited, Richardson decided that the University of Montana then offered the best opportunity for Sigma Nu. After conferring



HARRY C. COFFMAN, GAMMA CHI
Aggressive leader of the University of Washington Chapter, mainly responsible for Sigma Nu's prestige as the pioneering fraternity in the Northwest.

with Evans, Richardson decided to register at the University and assist in the selection of a petitioning group. He remained in Missoula nearly a month, at the end of which sojourn seven outstanding students had been pledged. The assistance of Evans in this work was invaluable. Threatened faculty opposition was one difficulty that was encountered. Evans disposed of this hazard, and reversed the sentiment so that a welcome was assured Sigma Nu. He also advised in the selection of pledges, and after Richardson left he directed the organization of the petitioning group. Inspector Coffman stopped at Missoula

on his way to the Twelfth Grand Chapter, preparing himself with first hand information for the contest which was won by his generalship, supported by the confidence and admiration he commanded from all the delegates.

Coffman installed Gamma Phi in the Evans home at Missoula on February 3, 1905. As charter members of the Chapter, he initiated John H. McLeod, John J. Lucy, Floyd H. Hardenburgh, Emil W. Adair, Elmer R. Johnson, James H. Bonner and Robie E. Holmes. Evans assisted in the inaugural ceremonies, and became the Chapter's enthusiastic patron and ever-willing counselor. His home was the center of Gamma Phi's early social activities, and his influence gave the Chapter instant local prestige. This influence extended beyond state borders when Evans became a congressman, his interest in Sigma Nu remaining constant throughout his distinguished political career.

Gamma Phi was the only Chapter established during the year 1905. It was the final pioneering venture of the Fraternity in the Northwest. Harry Coffman continued his efforts to put Sigma Nu first in the field at the University of Idaho and at Washington State College, but sanction was not given for these foundings until other fraternities had been established at those institutions. The advantage gained in three states which Sigma Nu entered first was far-reaching, however, and Chapters founded later in that section owe much to Harry Coffman, the hard-working missionary of the Northwest who caught the spirit of Carl Lane Clemans and carried on the conquest that immortalized their names in Sigma Nu.

CHAPTER XXVII

Culminating Conquests

AS SIGMA NU approached the culmination of a well-balanced national development, the importance of Chapter foundings, as directly affecting the general history of the Fraternity, gradually diminished. During the era of Robinson's and Howard's activities, when Southern expansion predominated, the histories of Chapters then established virtually constituted the history of the Fraternity. In Harrington's time, when with the aid of Clemans the Western field was exploited, Chapter foundings furnished the sustaining inspiration and courage that moved Sigma Nu to greater achievements. The extension activities that centralized in the Middle-Western states during the heyday of Woods' administration, with Cook, Belfield and Jones the conspicuous leaders, served to give the Fraternity confidence for the last of four definite movements that marked the growth of Sigma Nu to a status of geographical symmetry. The establishment of Chapters, instead of being rudimental in relationship to the general history of the Fraternity, then became functional.

The final extension conquest, which gave Sigma Nu its geographical balance, was a systematic occupation of the Eastern field planned by Albert H. Wilson, Beta Iota, Mount Union, and executed principally through his efforts. While engaged in research work at Columbia University, Wilson gathered statistics and general information which gave him accurate insight into the status of Eastern institutions. He studied situations that would confront a new Chapter at places which seemed to be logical and desirable locations for Sigma Nu to enter. Wilson was not restrained by apprehensions which had caused others to have misgivings regarding Eastern extension. He believed that, with the right sort of fellows to start with, aggressiveness and resolute courage would gain for Sigma Nu in the East the standing which had been won in other sections. Personality and convincing address served Wilson in his endeavors, and mainly through his faith and good works Sigma Nu was advanced to a conspicuous position in the East, and thereby a well-balanced national organization was completed.

Although Wilson was primarily responsible for the establishment of Gamma Epsilon at Lafayette College and intimately associated with the beginnings of Gamma Delta at Stevens and Gamma Theta at Cornell, his systematic Eastern conquest was not inaugurated until 1906, when he became the founder of Gamma Psi Chapter at Syracuse University. At this institution, established at Syracuse, New York, in 1870, under control of the Methodist Episcopal Church, eleven Greek-letter fraternities had entered prior to the founding of Gamma

Psi Chapter. Delta Kappa Epsilon placed a Chapter there in 1871; Delta Upsilon in 1873; Zeta Psi and Psi Upsilon in 1875; Phi Kappa Psi, 1883; Phi Delta Theta, 1887; Beta Theta Pi, 1889; Phi Gamma Delta, 1901; Sigma Chi, 1904; Sigma Phi Epsilon and Alpha Chi Rho in 1905.

Friendship between Wilson and Jesse O. Ernsberger, a Syracuse student whom Wilson met at Ocean Grove, New Jersey, during his vacation in the summer of 1905, was the contact from which Gamma Psi Chapter started. Following up this connection by correspondence in the fall Wilson directed Ernsberger in the formation of a petitioning group, which Inspector Horace Sibson investigated and approved during the winter. Harvey B. Mann, Cornell chapter-mate of Sibson, spent two days with the petitioners, and to these two Gamma Theta alumni great credit is due for supplementing Wilson's efforts. Harvey Mann assisted Inspector Sibson in the installation of Gamma Psi Chapter on April 7, 1906. Members of Gamma Theta conducted the initiation ceremonies which were held at the Yates Hotel. Fifteen initiates were enrolled as charter members of the new Chapter. Gamma Psi was the only Chapter formed during the year 1906.



ALBERT H. WILSON, BETA IOTA
Builder of Sigma Nu in the East, as he appeared when in the midst of his campaign to give the Fraternity creditable position in that section.

The Thirteenth Grand Chapter met at the Auditorium Hotel in Chicago, December 31, 1906, January 1-2, 1907. Regent Isadore Dyer presided. The social tone of the convention was vibrant with the influence of his brilliance and culture. The sentiment of this Grand Chapter was manifestly responsive to his fraternal spirit. During the second year of his regency the eminent Dr. Dyer had made a visitation trip embracing many Chapters and alumni centers. The Thirteenth Grand Chapter evidenced in numbers and in enthusiasm the spiritual impetus resultant from Regent Dyer's memorable pilgrimage. More than three hundred delegates and visitors attended. The Chicago Alumni Chapter, under the leadership of Past Regent George M. Cook, provided entertainment more elaborate and more unique than previously had been attempted, and in this respect the Thirteenth Grand Chapter was unique.

The business session of this Grand Chapter produced much general discussion, but little legislation. A charter was granted for a Chapter at Case School of Applied Science. A comprehensive report of his work on revision of the Ritual was presented by Past Regent Bennett. Promise of a new song book was made

by Regent Dyer, who voluntarily assumed the responsibility in order that h might assure the consummation of this important task so long delayed.

Readjustments necessitated by expanding financial problems were effectec by the Thirteenth Grand Chapter. Under the leadership of Inspector Harry B. Marsh, Beta Zeta, Purdue, the finance committee assumed greater dictatior



ISADORE DYER, BETA-BETA PHI
REGENT 1904-06
His fraternal spirit gave impetus to a revival of Beta, inspired the founding of Beta Phi, energized the Louisiana and Texas State Associations, and during his regency quickened the spiritual sense of the entire Fraternity.

as an adjunct in the administrative affairs of the Fraternity. Inspector Marsh had been appointed by the Tenth Grand Chapter to head an auditing committee, which innovation he proposed at New Orleans. Under his direction when he was chairman of the finance committee the budget system was introduced. The growing complexity of the Fraternity's financial affairs developed divergent

views regarding administration problems, injecting political situations into the reckoning with a forecast of controversy such as marks the beginning of revolutionary changes in methods of government. Such portendings were discernible only in the undercurrent, however, the general conduct of the Thirteenth Grand Chapter having been harmonious in action and in feeling.

The growing power and influence of Walter J. Sears as counselor and preceptor was strikingly apparent throughout the sessions of the Thirteenth Grand Chapter. Whether in matters of material or spiritual consideration, his eloquent



WALTER J. SEARS, NU-BETA NU
As he appeared about the time he wrote The Creed of Sigma Nu, first delivered at the banquet of the Thirteenth Grand Chapter.

reasoning was heard and heeded with respect and with response that presaged his peerless leadership. The emotional climax of this convention came at the banquet when Sears recited for the first time the Creed, that matchless classic of fraternity literature which so elegantly epitomizes the ideals of Sigma Nu, conserving for posterity the inspiration of Walter Sears' fraternal spirit.

Francis V. Keesling, Beta Chi, Stanford, was elected Regent at the Thirteenth Grand Chapter. A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta, Purdue, was made Vice Regent. Grand Treasurer Heywood, Grand Recorder Woods, Grand Historian Sears and Grand Chaplain Walton were re-elected. Dallas Flannagan, Alpha, was chosen Grand Counselor. Division Inspectors named were: I, Albert H. Wilson, Beta Iota; II, John W. Clifton, Xi-Sigma; III, Harry G. McNeer, Theta; IV,



TRAFFORD TALLMADGE
Beta Upsilon

WALTER E. MYERS
Beta Iota

s of Cleveland, Ohio, Alumi

GEORGE A. WADDLE
Epsilon

CLYDE T. KIRKBRIDE
Beta Iota

, in Grand Chapter a.

Trafford B. Tallmadge, Beta Upsilon; V, Fred G. Pegelow, Gamma Mu; VI, Frank W. Crockett, Beta Mu; VII, Arthur F. Krippner, Gamma Lambda; VIII, Fred G. Lyons, Phi; IX, Charles R. Hays, Chi-Beta Mu; X, Harry C. Coffman, Gamma Chi; XI, Edwin C. Hammer, Beta Psi; XII, John E. Ramsay, Beta Tau.



DALLAS FLANNAGAN, ALPHA
GRAND COUNSELOR, 1906-08
Member of the Mother Chapter, who assisted in Eastern Chapter installations and in the organization of the New York Alumni Chapter.

The charter for Delta Alpha Chapter at Case School of Applied Science, granted by the Thirteenth Grand Chapter, was the culmination of four years of effort by the Cleveland Alumni Chapter. During these years when hopes had twice been wrecked at Grand Chapters, those most persistent in pursuit of this charter were George A. Waddle, Epsilon, Bethany; Walter E. Myers and Clyde T. Kirkbride, Beta Iota, Mount Union. The movement was started when Waddle and Kirkbride were law students at Western Reserve University. The successful petitioning group was built up around Harold H. Woods, Beta Iota, Mount Union, who entered Case in the fall of 1906. Trafford B. Tallmadge, Beta Upsilon, Rose, then became actively interested in the movement and through his generalship, supported by Waddle's oratory, the victory was won at the Thirteenth Grand Chapter. Delta Alpha was inaugurated at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland, February 22, 1907, under the direction of Inspector Tallmadge. Walter J. Sears was selected as installing officer, having served in this capacity when the two earlier Chapters in the State of Ohio were instituted. Sigma Nu was the seventh fraternity to enter Case. Zeta Psi entered in 1885, five years after the institution was founded. Phi Delta Theta followed in 1896; Kappa Sigma in 1903; Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Beta Theta Pi in 1905; and Phi Kappa Psi in 1906.



HARRY B. MARSH, BETA ZETA
Purdue Chapter alumnus, for many years prominent in Grand Chapter activities.

Inspector "Bert" Wilson began his official career with characteristic expedition and energy by visiting Beta Sigma at Vermont, then the Fraternity's only collegiate contact in the New England States. He found their greatest need was for other Chapters of Sigma Nu in that territory and learned that their greatest desire in that direction was for a Chapter at Dartmouth College. At this historic institution established at Hanover, New Hampshire, in 1770, fraternity life had long dominated campus activities. Psi Upsilon entered Dartmouth in 1842; Alpha Delta Phi in 1846; Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1853; Zeta Psi, 1855; Theta Delta Chi, 1869; Phi Delta Theta, 1884; Beta Theta Pi, 1889; Sigma Chi, 1893; Phi Kappa Psi, 1896; Phi Gamma Delta and Delta Tau Delta in 1901; Chi Phi, 1902; Kappa Sigma and Phi Sigma Kappa in 1905.

Wilson went to Hanover after his visit with the Vermont Chapter desiring to get first-hand knowledge of the Dartmouth situation. From the president of the College he learned that the Pukwana Club, a local organized in 1903, was considering national affiliation under circumstances which at that time did not invite direct approach. "Pukwana", the Indian name for peace pipe, taken from Longfellow's "Hiawatha", was adopted as a symbol of good fellowship and became so treasured among the membership that attempts to nationalize the group were resisted repeatedly. In time, however, the advantages of broader fraternal relationships became apparent. A letter from Wilson opened negotiations and later a visit with the Pukwanians won their favor for Sigma Nu. By quick action Wilson overcame the possibility of losing this opportunity to enter Dartmouth.

With commencement time two months ahead, a sixty-day voting period to anticipate, and circumstances in general making delay hazardous, the loss of a day threatened disaster. William F. English, who was selected by the Pukwana Club to work with Wilson in rushing the petition, took the material to New York City, where Wilson resided. After hurrying to get the printing done by the end of the week, Sunday came with the press work unfinished. By special arrangement Wilson and English were permitted to man the printshop on the Sabbath day and, although Wilson took time out to preach that morning, the petition was in the mail an hour after midnight. It received unanimous approval, and on May 10, 1907, Wilson installed Delta Beta Chapter at Dartmouth. The ceremonies were held in the G. A. R. hall at Hanover. All the Eastern Chapters sent representatives, officers of Beta Sigma, Vermont, performing the ritualistic service. Several alumni of the Pukwana Club were included in the twenty-six initiates, who became the charter members of Delta Beta Chapter.

Delta Gamma at Columbia University was the next Eastern Chapter that developed through Wilson's efforts. Twenty fraternities had previously established Chapters at this institution in New York City, originally chartered as King's College in 1754 during the reign of George II. Alpha Delta Phi entered Columbia in 1836; Psi Upsilon and Delta Phi in 1842; Chi Psi, 1846; Delta Psi, 1847; Phi Kappa Sigma, 1855; Phi Gamma Delta, 1866; Phi Kappa

Psi, 1872; Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1874; Zeta Psi, 1879; Beta Theta Pi and Alpha Tau Omega in 1881; Delta Tau Delta, 1882; Theta Delta Chi, 1883; Phi Delta Theta, 1884; Delta Upsilon, 1885; Sigma Chi, 1894; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1895; Phi Sigma Kappa, 1897; and Alpha Chi Rho, 1900.

Sigma Nu entered Columbia by chartering the Gray and Gold Club, a local organized in the spring of 1907. Wilson became acquainted with some of the members of this organization while taking lectures at the University. In the fall of 1907 he arranged a meeting between representatives of the Gray and Gold Club and Gamma Delta at the Stevens chapter house, at which time the movement to establish Sigma Nu at Columbia was started. The charter was won by a single vote, a determined campaign against the petition having revived skepticism that so long retarded the advance of Sigma Nu in the East. The remarkable success of the Columbia Chapter forever disposed of such misgivings.



FOUNDER HOPKINS AND GRAND HISTORIAN WALTER J. SEARS, NU-BETA NU
Picture taken at the home of Founder Hopkins during memorable pilgrimage to the Founders.

Delta Gamma Chapter was installed under the direction of Inspector Wilson at the Stevens chapter house February 29, 1908, Gamma Delta giving the degrees to the seventeen charter members. Representatives of twenty-five Chapters attended the installation banquet held at the Hotel Flanders in New York City following the initiation ceremonies. It was the largest gathering of Sigma Nus that had been held in the East up to that time and was significant of the importance of this Chapter founding. The Chapters at Dartmouth and Columbia were the only ones voted charters during the interim between the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Grand Chapters.

During this two-year period the Fraternity had been more concerned with consideration of proposed administrative changes and with matters of historical interest than with extension activities. In the spring of 1908 Grand Historian Walter J. Sears visited Founders Hopkins, Quarles and Riley and John Alexander Howard, Founder of *The Delta*. Experiences attending this historical pilgrimage and facts and impressions received were written by Sears into soul-stirring narrative, published in the November, 1908, *Delta*, just prior to the convening of the Fourteenth Grand Chapter. This inspiring contribution was

an appropriate prelude to this reappearance of the three notables, Hopkins, Quarles and Howard, whose meetings at the Eleventh Grand Chapter had given impetus to the plans for historical research undertaken by Grand Historian Walter J. Sears. The presence of these revered guests added impressiveness to



FRANCIS V. KEESLING, BETA CHI
REGENT, 1906-08
Pre-eminent California Sigma Nu. The crowning service of his brilliant record of achievement was the inauguration of the proposal for a centralized system of administration.

the Fourteenth Grand Chapter sessions, which were marked by more momentous situations than had characterized any biennial convocation since the Seventh Grand Chapter in 1894, when Woods succeeded Harrington as Grand Recorder.

The change made at that time was the natural development in a progressive organization which at intervals demands new men to inaugurate new achievements and new methods to meet changed conditions. As the Fraternity had

outgrown the one-man control so signally administered by Harrington, so it became apparent to certain leaders that the divided system which had been operated by Woods and Heywood with success for several years after a decade had become inadequate to the needs of the organization. Regent Keesling took the lead in advocating reform measures, presenting at the Fourteenth Grand Chapter a series of proposed amendments to the Law designed to centralize all administrative functions in one office from which the editorship of *The Delta* was to be separate. The deliberations of the Fourteenth Grand Chapter which met at the Auditorium Hotel in Chicago, December 31, 1908, January 1-2, 1909, were confined largely to consideration of Keesling's recommendations.

During his two-year term Regent Keesling had made an exhaustive study of administrative problems and of matters of general fraternity policy; the result of which survey had been set forth in a sixteen-page article in *The Delta*, three months before the meeting of the Fourteenth Grand Chapter. With the exception of Rawson Bennett no Regent up to that time had shown such comprehensive grasp of internal affairs of the Fraternity, and none but Bennett had contributed more constructive ideas for governmental improvement than had Regent Keesling. Behind Keeeling's labor for the Fraternity, which had been unceasing from the date of his initiation at Stanford in 1895, there was a devotion to Sigma Nu rarely evidenced in such long-continued and distinguished service by men of his extensive and conspicuous professional connections.

Political situations which had produced menacing undercurrent influences at the preceding convention developed into such force at the Fourteenth Grand Chapter that legislative action was affected. In this political complex Keesling's plan for readjustment of administrative offices became involved with the result that its main proposal was marked for defeat by the majority control of the convention which was responsive to partisan influence. One of the most dramatic situations ever recorded in the proceedings of a Grand Chapter attended the motion to lay upon the table the recommendation of the jurisprudence committee that an amendment embracing Keesling's centralization plan be given consideration. Without admitting discussion of the proposition this parliamentary action in one moment wrecked the plan which Regent Keesling had spent months constructing. His work was not in vain, however, for upon the foundations of his far-seeing proposal later was built a centralized administrative system embracing the general characteristics of Keesling's plan.

A number of miscellaneous amendments presented by Regent Keesling and worked out under the able direction of Past Grand Treasurer Bixby Willis, jurisprudence committee chairman, were adopted by the Fourteenth Grand Chapter. Most of this legislation was designed to clarify the Law regarding duties of Collegiate Chapter officers, the obligations of Alumni Chapters and the conduct of Grand Chapters. The most profound development at the Fourteenth Grand Chapter was not written in the statutes, but was recorded in the proceedings during the election of officers. At the request of Ferd Heywood his name was withdrawn after he had been renominated for a sixth term as Grand



FERD H. HEYWOOD, BETA NU
GRAND TREASURER, 1898-1908
Alumnus of the Ohio State University Chapter, who systematized the fiscal affairs of the Fraternity. Editor of the Third Catalogue. For ten years he was an outstanding leader in Sigma Nu.

Treasurer. This signaled the passing from official service of one of the Fraternity's greatest benefactors. Ten years before, when Heywood was first elected, there were practically no records, there was no system, and very little respect was held for the office of Grand Treasurer. Revolution of such conditions did not alone constitute the service he rendered Sigma Nu. In matters of jurisprudence his contributions were vital. Heywood's influence was a stabilizing factor that affected every angle of the Fraternity's development during the decade of his official career. His retirement was the first sign of the

passing of the old system and foreshadowed the adoption of a centralized administration plan, which reform Heywood favored.

Wade Hampton Ellis, Lambda, Washington and Lee, at that time Assistant Attorney General of the United States, was elected Regent at the Fourteenth Grand Chapter. Albert H. Wilson was recognized for his distinguished service in the East by election to the dual office of Vice Regent and Inspector General. Samuel F. Pegues, Theta, one of the early initiates of the Alabama Chapter, was made Grand Treasurer. Grand Recorder Woods and Grand Historian Sears were re-elected. Robert J. Bannister, Beta Mu, Iowa, was chosen Grand Counselor. Paul M. Spencer, Beta Beta, DePauw, was elected Grand Chaplain. Division Inspectors selected were: I, Frank H. Hobson, Beta Rho; II, John W. Clifton, Xi-Sigma; III, Wayne P. Sewell, Eta; IV, George A. Waddle, Epsilon; V, Fred G. Pegelow, Gamma Mu; VI, Frank W. Crockett, Beta Mu; VII, Arthur F. Krippner, Gamma Lambda; VIII, Dudley L. Weber, Phi; IX, Ora S. Fowler, Gamma Kappa; X, Joseph B. Knapp, Beta Zeta; XI, Percy H. Booth, Beta Psi; XII, Rudolph Bumgardner, Lambda; XIII, Alfred C. Evens, Beta Beta.



SAMUEL F. PEGUES, THETA
Veteran alumnus of the University of Alabama Chapter, member of the Chicago Alumni Chapter, elected Grand Treasurer in 1908.

Four new Chapters were established during the first half of the year 1909. The first of these to receive a charter was Delta Delta at Pennsylvania State College, a land-grant institution founded at State College, Pennsylvania, in 1855. Delta Tau Delta, established there in 1872, was first to enter "Penn State", as the College is best known. The Chapter became defunct the next year, but was revived in 1912. Beta Theta Pi and Phi Gamma Delta entered in 1888; Phi Kappa Sigma in 1890; Sigma Chi, 1891; Kappa Sigma and Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1892; Phi Sigma Kappa, 1899; and Phi Delta Theta in 1904.

The University Club, which Sigma Nu chartered at Penn State, was organized in 1904. Its ambition for national fraternity connection was directed toward Sigma Nu in the fall of 1907 when Edward A. Walker, brother of John H. Walker of the Lehigh Chapter, joined the University Club. Through a Penn State student who transferred to Delaware College, joining a local organized there by Inspector A. H. Wilson, the University Club was put into communication with this zealous official, who at once interested himself in their

behalf. Harvey B. Mann, the faithful Cornell alumnus who had helped Wilson establish the Syracuse Chapter, made the inspection at Penn State and assisted in getting a favorable Division vote. The charter for Delta Delta Chapter was granted December 22, 1908. The installation was held at the Beta Rho Chapter house in Philadelphia, April 8, 1909. The installation functions were in charge of Frank H. Hobson, Beta Rho, who had been elected Inspector when Wilson was elected to the vice regency. Teams from Lehigh, Lafayette, Cornell and University of Pennsylvania initiated the twenty charter members of Delta Delta Chapter in groups of five. Several alumni members of the University Club later joined them in Sigma Nu.



PAUL MANSFIELD SPENCER, BETA BETA
DePauw alumnus, elected Grand Chaplain in 1908. His many pilgrimages among the Chapters were occasions of great spiritual consequence.

The Fourteenth Grand Chapter granted charters to groups of petitioners at the University of Oklahoma and Western Reserve University. At the University of Oklahoma, established at Norman in 1892, Kappa Alpha (S) entered in 1905; Kappa Sigma in 1906; and Beta Theta Pi in 1907. Articles in *The Delta* had called attention to the growing institutions of higher education in the Southwest, emphasizing the University of Oklahoma as most inviting to fraternities. Grand Recorder Woods, always alert and responsive to constructive suggestions, wrote Joseph F. Paxton, Rho, Missouri, a professor at the University of Oklahoma, who agreed to organize a group to petition Sigma Nu. With the assistance of Lawrence W. Cole, Beta Kappa, Southwest Kansas College, also a member of the Oklahoma faculty, Alpha Delta local was organized in the summer of 1908. Charles E. Honnold, Gamma Beta, Northwestern, an alumnus residing in Oklahoma City, led the petition's proponents to victory at the Fourteenth Grand Chapter. Delta Epsilon Chapter was installed at the Threadgill Hotel in Oklahoma City on February 20, 1909, by Inspector Arthur F. Krippner, assisted by representatives of the Division Chapters who initiated the fifteen charter members.

Western Reserve University, established by Presbyterians at Hudson, Ohio, in 1826, and later moved to Cleveland, was entered by Alpha Delta Phi and Beta Theta Pi in 1841; Delta Upsilon in 1843; Delta Kappa Epsilon in 1868; Phi Gamma Delta, 1876; Delta Tau Delta, 1882; Alpha Tau Omega, 1901; and Sigma Chi in 1909. Alpha Nu, a local organized in the fall of 1907, was adopted by the Cleveland Alumni Chapter with the hope of realizing their

long-cherished desire to establish Sigma Nu at "Old Reserve". George A. Waddle, veteran of Epsilon's battles, presented the petition at the Fourteenth Grand Chapter in behalf of the Cleveland Alumni Chapter. All but one member of the committee on extension joined in an adverse report, John Alexander Howard, Founder of *The Delta*,* presenting a minority recommendation favoring the petition. Past Regent Bennett came to Waddle's support as he had done when Epsilon was rechartered at the Eleventh Grand Chapter. The minority report prevailed, and the establishment of Delta Zeta Chapter was authorized. The Chapter was installed at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland, February 22, 1909. George Waddle, who had been elected Inspector following the granting of the charter, was installing officer. Grand Recorder Woods was present and assisted in the ceremonies. The fourteen charter members of Delta Zeta were initiated by teams representing all the Chapters of the Division.

Extension activity continued westward with the founding of the next Chapter, Delta Eta at the University of Nebraska. At this institution, established at Lincoln in 1869, Phi Delta Theta entered in 1875; Sigma Chi in 1883; Beta Theta Pi, 1888; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1893; Delta Tau Delta, 1894; Phi Kappa Psi, 1895; Alpha Tau Omega and Kappa Sigma in 1897; Delta Upsilon and Phi Gamma Delta in 1898.

The group which became Delta Eta Chapter was doubly linked to Sigma Nu. Lois C. Hummel, one of the leaders in the petitioning movement, was a brother of Charles M. Hummel, Gamma Xi, Missouri School of Mines. Howard H. Hanks, Beta Lambda, Central College of Missouri, was largely responsible for inspiring the formation of the Chapter. Hanks imparted his Sigma Nu enthusiasm to Robert D. Hawley when the latter was a student at the Nebraska City high school. When Hawley entered the University of Nebraska in the fall of 1908, he was thoroughly imbued with the determination to establish a Chapter of Sigma Nu there, and to him great credit is due for the result. Vice Regent Wilson and Grand Recorder Woods rendered helpful service to the petitioners. The installation of Delta Eta Chapter was conducted by Inspector Frank W. Crockett at the Hotel Lincoln on June 16, 1909, at which time nine charter members were initiated.

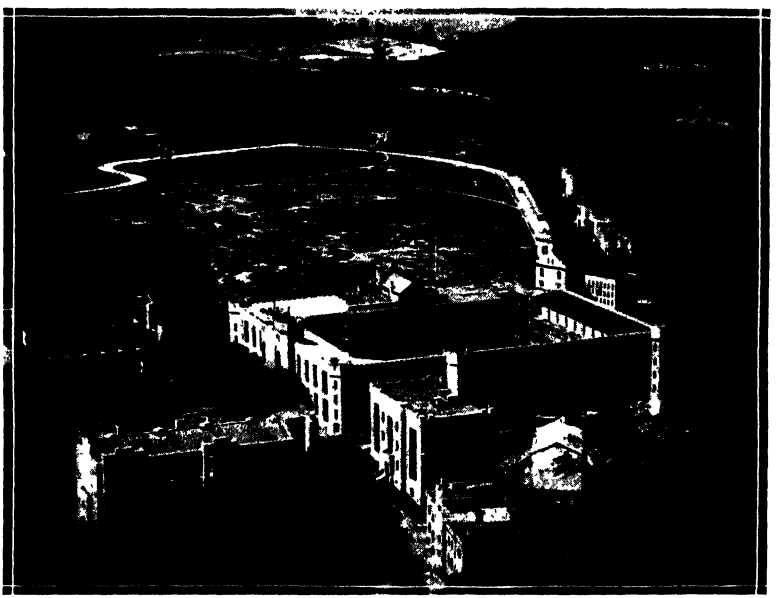
The revival of Alpha Chapter near the close of the year 1909, although not long-enduring, was an event of great spiritual consequence. Circumstances surrounding this development were not unlike situations that existed when Sigma Nu was founded. The decree invoked in 1884, which was designed to prohibit fraternities from operating at Virginia Military Institute, had not been entirely effective. For at least a greater part of the twenty-five years that Sigma Nu had remained inactive at its birthplace, Kappa Alpha (S) had maintained a Chapter there, *sub rosa* in its movements, but generally known to be in thriving operation. Leading officials and influential sub-professors were members of Kappa Alpha (S), and this fact, considered with long-continued disregard of the antifraternity ruling, encouraged the assumption that a tolerant attitude prevailed. Acting upon this supposition the Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon had been revived and had encountered no opposition in pursuing a somewhat guarded existence for several years.



GROUP OF BUILDINGS ON GROUNDS OF V. M. I.

1, Library; 2, Mess Hall; 3, "Stonewall" Jackson Memorial Hall; 4, Interior of Jackson Memorial Hall showing in the background a painting depicting the Battle of Newmarket; 5, Barracks.

The movement which culminated in the revival of Alpha Chapter of Sigma Nu dates from the fall of 1906, when Ora M. Baldinger entered Virginia Military Institute. Baldinger was above the average age of his classmates, and because of his aptness in scholastic work and in military training and his capacity for friendship he soon became a leader. He had joined the Masonic Lodge before entering V. M. I., and on mingling with upperclassmen and faculty members at lodge meetings in Lexington he formed associations not usually acquired by a fourthclassman. His familiarity with the ways of a secret organization caused him to regard with interest and speculation the peculiar fraternity situation existing at Virginia Military Institute. Observing



AIRPLANE VIEW OF V. M. I.
Buildings and parade grounds as they appeared in 1912.

the control over student affairs that Kappa Alpha (S) maintained Baldinger determined to develop an opposing organization that would break down this oligarchic influence and open the way for fair competition.

Without any very definite plan in the beginning, except to unify some of the promising unaffiliated students in a movement to combat existing conditions, Baldinger launched his activities during the winter of 1906-07. His first confidant was Robert C. Snidow, his roommate throughout their four years at V. M. I. Working together they pledged four other members of the class of 1910. Representatives from the upper classes and a sub-professor were added to their secret alliance that first year. At finals in the spring of 1907 Baldinger was appointed first ranking cadet officer in his class, and this greatly strengthened the influence and the resolve of the group. Baldinger held the

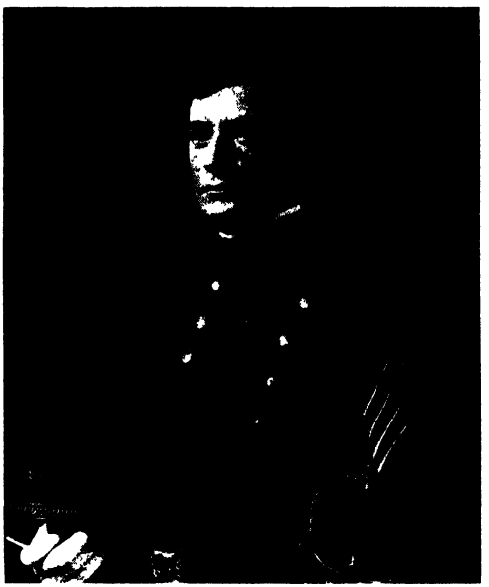


V. M. I. BUILDINGS AND CAMPUS SCENES

1, Scott Shipp Memorial Hall; 2, Maury-Brooke Hall; 3, Officers' quarters around parade grounds; 4, Bronze reproduction of Houdon's Statue of George Washington; 5, "Auld Lang Syne," farewell graduation ceremony.

leading military position throughout the remaining three years, becoming in his senior year first captain of Company A, the highest military rank in the Corps. He also won third distinction in scholarship at graduation. Benjamin F. Crowson, one of his secret associates, was president and valedictorian of their graduating class. Key positions had been gained before that time in the other class organizations and in military ranking.

Having succeeded in breaking down overbearing control Baldinger and his classmates very naturally desired before graduation to perpetuate their organization, which had developed strong fraternal ties among associates. Affiliation with a national Greek-letter society was agreed upon as the logical course. Investigation revealed that Sigma Nu had been founded at V. M. I., and in the history of this Fraternity they were impressed with incipient motives similar to those which had inspired the beginning of their own organization. Their interest in Sigma Nu was greatly accelerated in the spring of 1909, when Regent Wade H. Ellis delivered the annual alumni address at the Washington and Lee commencement exercises. A reunion of Lambda Chapter alumni, held on that occasion, made Sigma Nu the most conspicuous fraternity during the celebration on the neighboring campus. Members of Lambda Chapter previously had become acquainted with Baldinger and his associates and with enthusiasm had endorsed the proposal to revive Alpha Chapter. James P. Alexander, an alumnus of Lambda, then residing in Lexington, was principally responsible for inaugurating this movement.



ORA M. BALDINGER, ALPHA
Leader in the 1909 revival of Alpha Chapter, a militant spirit in affairs of the Fraternity for many years.

Regent Ellis delegated Past Grand Treasurer Bixby Willis, a Lambda Chaptermate, to direct negotiations and arrange the details of this important action. It was widely argued that the formalities of petitioning were unnecessary since Alpha had not been created through a charter and hence needed no authority from its offspring in order to resume activity. Some difference of opinion developed over this point, and in order to eliminate any legal question a petition was circulated and passed. Willis was appointed installing officer. With the assistance of Past Regent Robinson and in the presence of Founder Hopkins and members of Lambda Chapter the revival of Alpha Chapter was solemnized at the Pythian Hall in Lexington, December 4, 1909. Owing to the strict mili-

tary rules which limited the leave of the nine initiates only simple ceremonies were held, the major celebration having been set for the week of finals in the spring, when elaborate social functions were staged at the Natural Bridge Hotel near Lexington.

The return of Sigma Nu to the seat of its founding proved disastrous to the peculiar fraternity status that had existed at V. M. I. The control that long had been maintained by Kappa Alpha (S) was broken, fair and open rivalry resulting from the success of Baldinger and his associates. This situation did not prevail long, however, for in 1911 the antifraternity rule at V. M. I. was again invoked. The revival of Alpha Chapter had been authorized with the understanding that in no sense should it be *sub rosa*, and Sigma Nu refused to countenance a continuance of its Chapter against official will. This was a



AT THE ROCK OF SIGMA NU
Group of Washington and Lee Sigma Nus at the historic spot where the Founders inaugurated the Fraternity.

double calamity to Baldinger and to other men of revived Alpha who shared his feeling against the old system of control, which reverted to Kappa Alpha (S), operating *sub rosa*, but generally known to be in active existence. Hope was entertained for some time that the rule against fraternities would be abrogated. But in time this proved futile, and in 1915 Alpha's charter was withdrawn. Baldinger returned to Lexington in 1912 to direct construction work at V. M. I. In this connection he had charge of blasting away the famous Rock of Sigma Nu, which for nearly half a century had marked the first meeting place of the Founders.

Following the year 1909, during which twelve months four Chapters had been founded and Alpha had been revived, extension activities decreased, but one new Chapter being established during each of the years 1910, 1911 and 1912. Delta Iota Chapter, installed at the State College of Washington in the spring of 1910, was the culmination of one of Harry Coffman's long-pursued conquests in the Northwest. His greatest task in this connection had been to

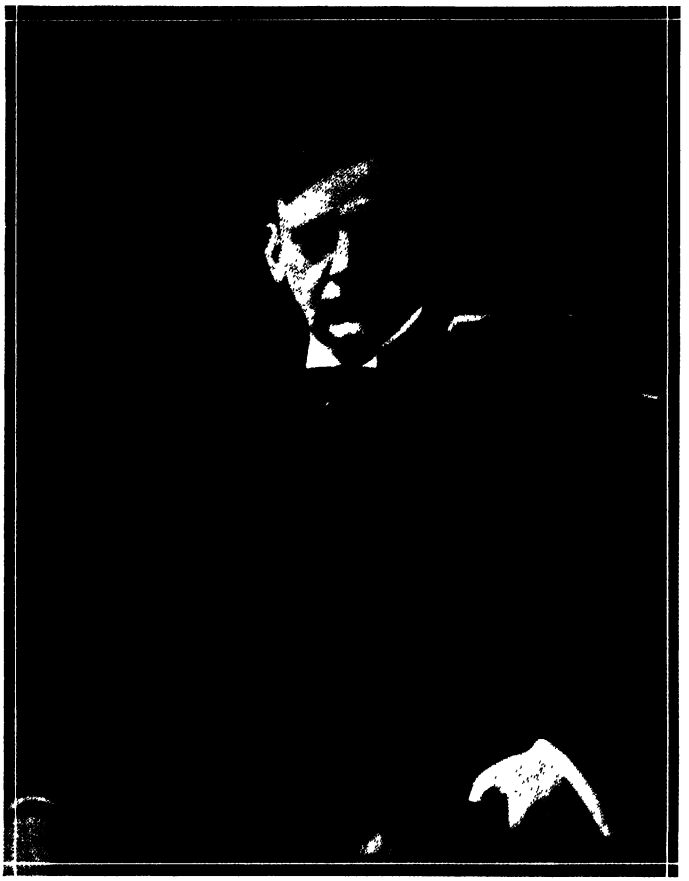
counteract prejudice in his own Chapter at the University of Washington, contest over state appropriations for years having fostered unfriendliness between the two institutions. For nearly five years the Ophites, organized in 1905 to petition Sigma Nu, had been held steadfast in their purpose. Donald S. Blair, originator of Gamma Tau at the University of Minnesota, was during the early part of this period the main source of inspiration and the most active spirit in promoting the movement. Hiram C. Sampson, early member of the Indiana University Chapter, also rendered helpful service to the cause. Both Blair and Sampson were connected with the faculty of the State College of Washington.

Coffman had hoped to make Sigma Nu the pioneer at this institution, which was established at Pullman in 1892, but Kappa Sigma had gained this priority by entering in 1909. Although not first to win national connection, the Ophite Society was the first local organized at Washington State for the purpose of petitioning a national fraternity. The society had a strong position on the campus when it became Delta Iota Chapter of Sigma Nu on March 12, 1910. The installation was held in the Ophite house with Inspector Joseph B. Knapp officially in charge. The formal installation ceremony was presided over by Orrin S. Good, Pi, Lehigh, who was then president of the Spokane Alumni Chapter, which had been very active in support of this petition. Frank D. Allen, Beta Chi, Stanford, directed the initiation of Delta Iota's twenty-one charter members, teams from the Universities of Washington, Oregon and Montana performing the ritualistic service. Oliver C. Huston, Gamma Zeta, Oregon, and Glenn E. Miller, Gamma Lambda, Wisconsin, who were also active in other extension movements in the Northwest, participated in the installation ceremonies of Delta Iota Chapter.

During the year 1910 the Fraternity was much concerned over political complexities which had affected the actions and the atmosphere of the Fourteenth Grand Chapter and which portended even more dramatic developments at the convention following. The causes and consequences of this injection of politics into the affairs of the Fraternity at that time were intimately associated with the consideration of the proposed reconstruction of the administrative system. Such revolutionary changes are not brought about without controversy. Although the Fifteenth Grand Chapter did not in a direct way consider the plan proposed at the previous convention, there was a conciliatory understanding effected during this meeting, which was its most important development. Otherwise there was a disposition at this Grand Chapter to mark time in legislative matters.

The Fifteenth Grand Chapter met at the Claypool Hotel in Indianapolis, December 29-31, 1910. Regent Wade H. Ellis presided except at the opening and closing sessions, his presence having been limited by pressing obligations connected with his office of Assistant Attorney General of the United States. Among the jurisprudence measures adopted was an act prohibiting the use of the badge upon jewelry or for ornamental purposes. A law was passed forbidding collegiate or alumni chapters or members thereof from sending letters or circulars among the Chapters without the approval of their Division Inspec-

tor, the practice having proved threatening to harmony and inciting to political activity. A committee to study and report on a system for uniform chapter accounting was authorized. The Bennett Liturgy, an extensive revision of the initiatory service, was adopted as optional for a two-year trial. Provision was made for the creation of a chapter house fund suggested by Grand Treasurer



WADE H. ELLIS, LAMBDA
REGENT, 1908-10
Distinguished alumnus of the Chapter at Washington and Lee, honored following years of active interest in the affairs of the Fraternity.

Pegues, whose report showed a cash balance exceeding seven thousand dollars, almost entirely acquired during his inaugural term.

A new Sigma Nu Song Book, the first with music included, was introduced at the Fifteenth Grand Chapter. This was the fulfillment of a promise made by Past Regent Dyer, who volunteered the important service when he retired from the regency. The volume of one hundred and twenty-eight pages was

prefaced by acknowledgments to Grant W. Harrington, who in 1889 compiled the first Sigma Nu Song Book, and to Dane S. Dunlop, Beta Beta, DePauw, who for many years rendered valuable service as chairman of the song book committee. It was appropriate that Past Regent Dyer's last conspicuous contribution to the Fraternity should be the preparation of a song book, a medium expressive of the spirit of enthusiasm and loyalty which had moved this distinguished devotee of Sigma Nu to such extensive and varied service to his Fraternity.

The Fifteenth Grand Chapter advanced Albert H. Wilson, Beta Iota, Mount Union, to the office of Regent. Arthur F. Krippner, Gamma Lambda, Wisconsin, was made Vice Regent and Inspector-General in recognition of his efficient work as a Division Inspector. Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods, Grand Treasurer Samuel F. Pegues, Grand Counselor Robert J. Bannister, Grand Historian Walter J. Sears and Grand Chaplain Paul M. Spencer were re-elected. Division Inspectors named were: I, Thomas F. Wood, Psi; II, Thomas H. Pickles, Zeta; III, Wayne P. Sewell, Eta; IV, George A. Waddle, Epsilon; V, Edward G. Hoffman, Gamma Nu; VI, Charles C. Nye, Chi; VII, John B. Pew, Beta Xi; VIII, Dudley L. Weber, Phi; IX, Ora S. Fowler, Gamma Kappa; X, Joseph B. Knapp, Beta Zeta; XI, Chaffee E. Hall, Beta Psi; XII, Thomas W. B. Welsh, Gamma Theta; XIII, Cornelius F. Rumely, Beta Zeta; XIV, Irving L. Rich, Beta Sigma.

The Fifteenth Grand Chapter granted a charter to the Phi Sigma local at Delaware State College, which institution, established at Newark in 1834, became the University of Delaware in 1921. Fraternities had been prohibited there prior to 1904, when the entrance of Kappa Alpha (S) signaled a reversal of attitude. Albert H. Wilson, then just starting on his campaign for Eastern extension, was impressed by this development, and when he became Division Inspector in 1906 he visited Newark to investigate prospects. Contact formed at that time resulted in the organization of the Phi Sigma local for the purpose of petitioning Sigma Nu. Four years of effort were given to this ambition before it became realized in the installation of Delta Kappa Chapter on January 16, 1911. Regent Wilson and Grand Chaplain Paul M. Spencer were the official representatives of the Fraternity in charge of arrangements. Members of Gamma Delta Chapter, Stevens Institute of Technology, performed the ritualistic ceremonies, which were held at the Phi Sigma Chapter house. Among the thirty-four active and alumni members of Phi Sigma initiated were President George A. Harter and Professor Clarence A. Short, who had been affiliated with the local from its beginning.

On February 12, 1912, Delta Lambda Chapter was installed at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island. At this institution, established as Rhode Island College in 1765 by members of the Baptist Church, fifteen fraternities were functioning when Sigma Nu entered. Alpha Delta Phi placed a Chapter at Brown in 1836; Delta Phi in 1838; Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1850; Zeta Psi, 1852; Theta Delta Chi, 1855; Delta Upsilon, 1868; Phi Delta Theta, 1889; Alpha Tau Omega, 1894; Delta Tau Delta, 1896; Kappa Sigma, 1898; Phi Gamma Delta and Phi Kappa Psi in 1902; and Phi Sigma Kappa in 1906.

Sigma Nu entered Brown University by chartering Sigma Delta Kappa, a local organized in 1907. Harold I. Huey, Beta Sigma, Vermont, was responsible for the contact from which the Sigma Nu petition generated. Active support was given the movement by Robert McBurney Mitchell, Gamma Beta,



CLARENCE E. WOODS
Grand Recorder

ORA M. BALDINGER
Alpha's Second Founder

FOUNDER JAMES F. HOPKINS

Picture taken on the occasion of the sixty-fifth anniversary of Founder Hopkins' birth, December 30, 1910, when during an ovation at the Fifteenth Grand Chapter he was presented with a bunch of white roses, the flower of Sigma Nu.

Northwestern, a professor at Brown. "Bert" Wilson, then Inspector, visited Providence in 1907 and assisted in the organization of the Sigma Delta Kappa local, giving it this name with the belief that the Chapter, if authorized, would be christened Delta Kappa. Inspector Irving L. Rich, who succeeded Wilson, conducted an aggressive petitioning campaign through the Boston Alumni

Chapter, invaluable assistance having been rendered by Walter Scott, Beta Iota, Mount Union, and Seth Arnold, Beta Upsilon, Rose.

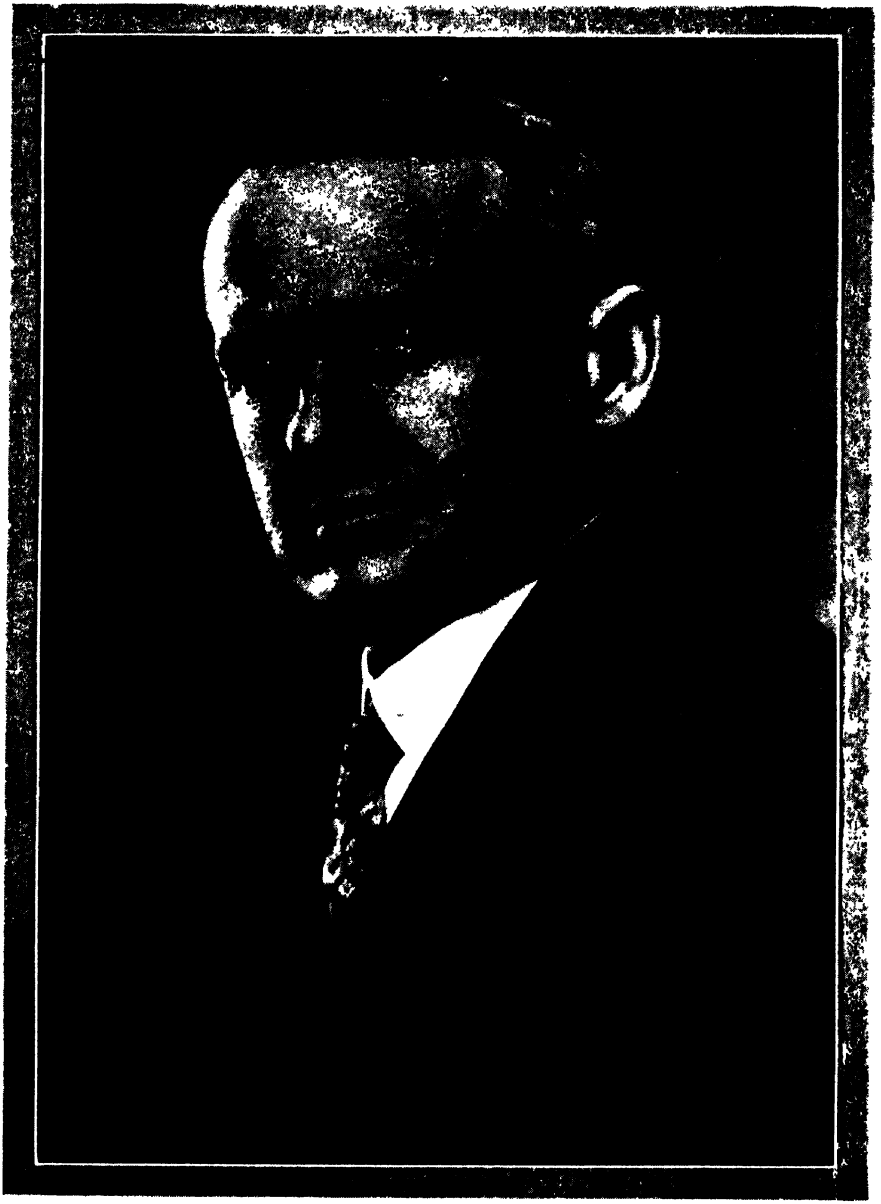
Regent Wilson and Grand Chaplain Spencer were in charge of the installation of Delta Lambda, which was held at the chapter house of the local. Representatives from surrounding Chapters conducted the initiation of twenty-one active and alumni members of Sigma Delta Kappa.

During its five years of probation the local organization at Brown had consistently maintained the scholastic standing of the founding group. In 1910 Sigma Delta Kappa led all fraternities at Brown University in scholarship. Four of the fifteen members who had been graduated up to that time had been elected to Phi Beta Kappa, three to Sigma Xi and one to both of these honorary scholastic fraternities. The Chapters at Brown and Delaware were the only additions to the Fraternity during the biennial period 1911-1912.

The Sixteenth Grand Chapter met at the Piedmont Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, December 30-31, 1912. January 1, 1913. Regent Albert H. Wilson presided. The attendance greatly exceeded that of any previous convention, four hundred and thirty-five registering during the sessions. In its social aspects this Grand Chapter was also unprecedented. In matters of legislation very little was attempted. Accepting the recommendation of Grand Recorder Woods the collegiate per capita tax was increased one dollar a year to provide paid-up alumni subscriptions to *The Delta*, two years for each year the tax was paid. An official pledge pin designed from the center of the Badge was adopted. Upon the suggestion of Grand Chaplain Spencer the first Sunday in November was designated as the Fraternity's Memorial Day, when it was suggested the white rose be worn by members of Sigma Nu.

The principal concern of the Sixteenth Grand Chapter was over the retirement from office of Clarence E. Woods, who for eighteen years had served as Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*. In accepting re-election at the Fifteenth Grand Chapter, Woods had declared that he would not again accept this office. His decision was prompted by an understanding of political situations involving consideration of the proposed changes in the system of administration. The sentiment of the Sixteenth Grand Chapter was strongly opposed to permitting Woods to abide by his promise, but heroically he declined to consider any course not consistent with honor. In choosing his successor the Grand Chapter fulfilled the expressed hope of Woods by electing Walter J. Sears to the dual office of Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*.

The Sixteenth Grand Chapter marked the termination of another official career brief in years, but broad in extent of influence. During two terms as Grand Counselor, Robert J. Bannister, by virtue of commanding attributes and through fearless action, had become the leader who piloted the Fraternity out of a political wilderness. As frank as he was far-seeing "Bob" Bannister took the initiative in combating situations that threatened the harmony and future well-being of Sigma Nu. His position was not one of popularity, but his motives were impersonal, and Bannister's record in the five Grand Chapters he had attended reveals a consistent display of unflinching conduct and uncompromising loyalty. His service on jurisprudence and finance committees for



ALBERT HUGHES WILSON, BETA IOTA
REGENT, 1910-12

Universally regarded as Sigma Nu's most prodigious worker. The Fraternity's position in the East is testimonial to his unceasing labors. His contributions to the growth and spiritual development of Sigma Nu were varied and widespread.

years was conspicuous. A revised edition of the Law adopted as official by the Sixteenth Grand Chapter was the culminating service of his two terms as Grand Counselor. Robert J. Bannister is one of the uncrowned kings of Sigma Nu.

Bannister was an outstanding leader at the Sixteenth Grand Chapter, where he served as chairman of the finance committee as well as counselor in matters of jurisprudence. His work on the finance committee was in great measure shared by George A. Caskey, Beta Nu, Ohio State, delegate from the Columbus, Ohio, Alumni Chapter. During the latter part of Heywood's administration Caskey had acted as unofficial assistant to the Grand Treasurer at Grand Chapter meetings and he became regarded as one of the faithfuls whose fellowship made the biennial reunions richer in fraternal manifestations.



ROBERT J. BANNISTER, BETA MU
GRAND COUNSELOR, 1908-12
University of Iowa alumnus, an outstanding figure whose record of service at Grand Chapters spanned a decade.

Arthur F. Krippner, Gamma Lambda, Wisconsin, was advanced from the vice regency to the office of Regent by the Sixteenth Grand Chapter. Wayne P. Sewell, Eta, Mercer, popular Southern leader, was elected Vice Regent. Grand Treasurer Pegues was re-elected in a demonstration that evidenced appreciation of the growing financial strength of the Fraternity, the result of his system of rigid economy. Borden H. Burr, Theta-Lambda, alumnus of the Chapters at Alabama and Washington and Lee, was made Grand Counselor. Burton P. Sears, Nu, Kansas, succeeded Walter J. Sears as Grand Historian. Grand Chaplain Paul M. Spencer was re-elected. Division Inspectors chosen were: I, Ora M. Baldinger, Alpha; II, John W. Bull, Sigma; III, Hugh Thurston, Mu; IV, George A. Caskey, Beta Nu; V, Joseph N. Swanson, Gamma Rho; VI, Edward M. Cassady, Gamma Sigma; VII, Frederick W. Niedermeyer, Rho; VIII, Robert C. Knox, Gamma Upsilon; IX, Ora S. Fowler, Gamma Kappa; X, Orrin S. Good, Pi; XI, Walter S. McGilvray, Beta Chi; XII, David R. Mixsell, Gamma Theta; XIII, James D. Douglass, Beta Eta; XIV, Irving L. Rich, Beta Sigma.

The Sixteenth Grand Chapter granted a charter to the Nu Sigma local at Stetson University. This petitioning group had been under the sponsorship of Albert H. Wilson during his terms as Vice Regent and Regent. Sigma Nu was the first fraternity to enter this institution established originally as DeLand Academy at DeLand, Florida, and in 1889 converted into Stetson University

through the munificence of John B. Stetson. Wilson's contact with the petitioners there came through a student who had transferred to Stetson from Bethany College, where Wilson had been principally responsible for the revival of Epsilon Chapter. Grand Recorder Woods assumed active leadership of the petitioners in the spring of 1912, when he became a resident of DeLand. Concluding developments in the petitioning campaign were under his direction. The Chapter at Stetson, designated as Delta Mu, was installed March 1, 1913. Twenty-four active and alumni members of the Nu Sigma local were initiated by a team com-



BORDEN BURR, THETA-LAMBDA
Elected Grand Counselor in 1912, inaugurating a career of distinguished service on the High Council.



WAYNE P. SEWELL, ETA
Southern leader, alumnus of Mercer Chapter, honored by election to the office of Vice Regent at the Sixteenth Grand Chapter.

posed of Grand Recorder Woods, Vice Regent Sewell, Karl Whitaker, Delta Gamma, Columbia, and Edward N. Calhoun, Mu, Georgia.

Delta Nu Chapter, installed at the University of Maine in the spring of 1913, culminated another one of "Bert" Wilson's long-pursued charter conquests. At the University of Maine, founded at Orono in 1863, Beta Theta Pi entered in 1878; Kappa Sigma in 1886; Alpha Tau Omega, 1891; Phi Kappa Sigma, 1898; Phi Gamma Delta, 1899; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1901; Sigma Chi, 1902; Theta Chi, 1907; Delta Tau Delta, 1908; and Lambda Chi Alpha, 1913. The Theta Epsilon local, which Sigma Nu chartered, was organized in 1903. Through a member of the faculty at Delaware, Wilson learned of the strong position Theta Epsilon held at Maine, and in 1906 he began correspondence which won their favor for Sigma Nu. For more than six years Wilson kept them constant in the ambition he had inspired, which was realized at the in-

stallation of Delta Nu Chapter, April 12, 1913. The ceremonies, held at the Hotel Colonial, in Bangor, nine miles from Orono, were in charge of Inspector Irving L. Rich, assisted by Grand Chaplain Spencer, Walter Scott, representing the Boston Alumni Chapter, and delegates from the Chapters at Columbia, Dartmouth and Brown.

On May 24, 1913, Beta Kappa Chapter was installed at Kansas State Agricultural College, in name reviving the defunct Chapter which had existed at



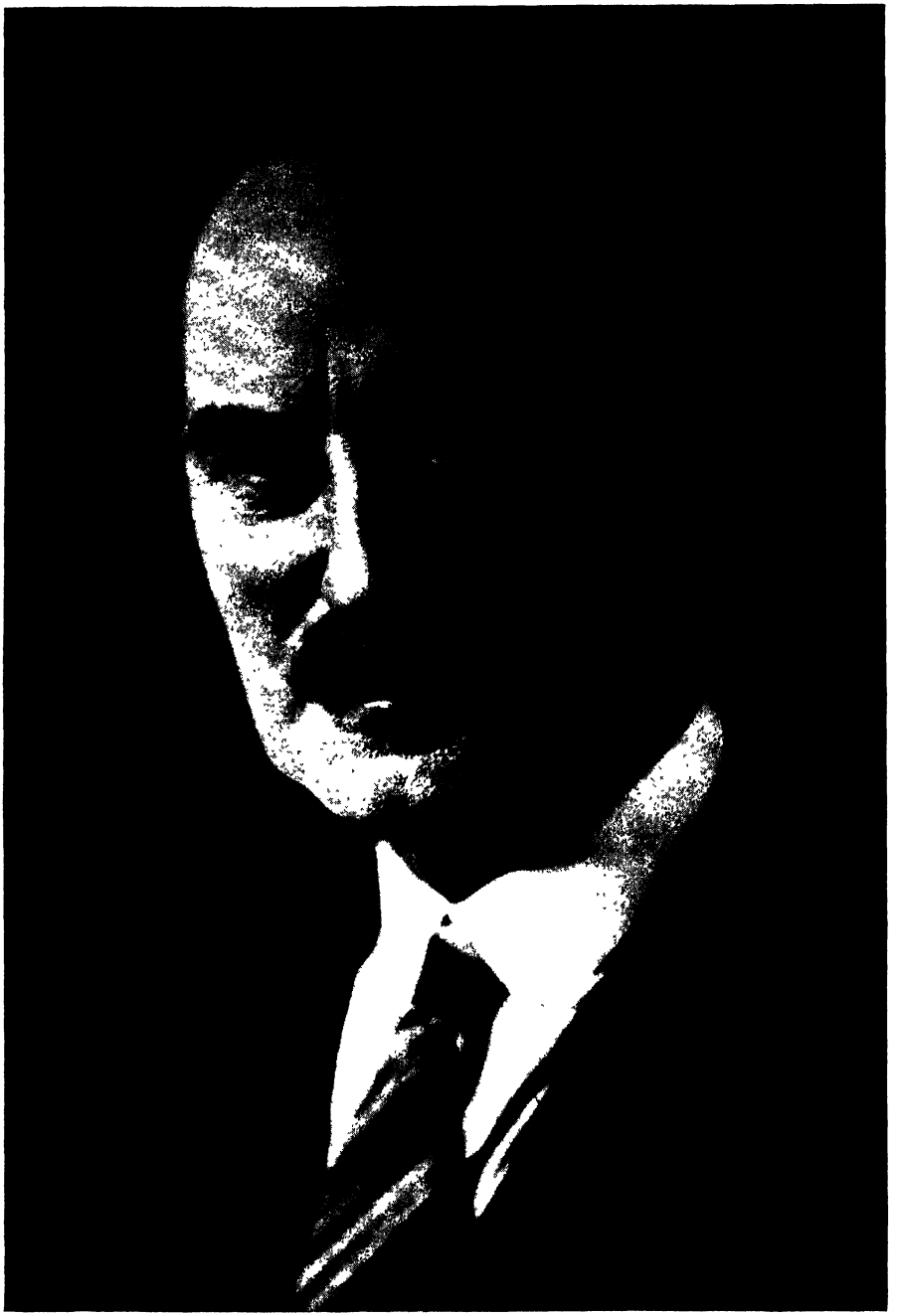
BURTON P. SEARS, NU
University of Kansas alumnus, who succeeded his distinguished uncle, Walter J. Sears as Grand Historian in 1913.



GEORGE A. CASKEY, BETA NU
Alumnus of the Ohio State University Chapter, prominent in business and social activities of Grand Chapters for many years.

Southwest Kansas College from 1892 to 1897. At the Kansas State College, established at Manhattan in 1863, fraternities of collegiate rank had not entered prior to the year 1913. Sigma Alpha Epsilon entered that year shortly before the installation of Beta Kappa Chapter. The organization which Sigma Nu chartered was formed in 1903 as a Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, a fraternity of secondary standing, from which the Kansas State Chapter had withdrawn. The movement to petition Sigma Nu, which started in 1910, grew out of friendships with members of Nu Chapter at the University of Kansas. Nu Chapter in a body attended the installation of Beta Kappa Chapter, and performed the initiation service. Division Inspector Niedermeyer was officially in charge of the ceremonies, assisted by Grand Historian Burton P. Sears, who was largely responsible for the success of this petition.

Beta Kappa was the last Chapter installed during the administration of Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods, whose ninth term ended June 30, 1913. During



CLARENCE E. WOODS, ZETA

Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*, 1894-1913

Affectionately referred to as the "Grand Old Man" of Sigma Nu, although his youthful spirit, zeal and enthusiasm for Sigma Nu had not diminished in the year 1926, when this photograph was made.

this period embracing nearly nineteen years' official service, forty new Chapters had been established, only one of which had fallen. It was a proud boast of Woods that, of all fraternities of truly national representation, Sigma Nu had the lowest percentage of Chapter mortality. The vigilance of Grand Recorder Woods was to a very great extent responsible for this record. Every Chapter founded during the two decades of his official career came under the invigorating spell of his fraternal spirit, and caught the sustaining inspiration of his Sigma Nu enthusiasm. Other Chapters established earlier had been quickened into new life or had been restored from dormancy to the living roll through his diligent efforts.

The personal devotion of Clarence E. Woods to the work of Sigma Nu was considered generally as one of the most remarkable demonstrations of loyalty in Greek-letter fraternity history. He gave the best years of his life in a service that for its intensity of effort, its extent of sacrifice, its manifestations of affection, is without parallel in this or in any similar organization. Typifying the highest ideals of honor, exemplifying the finest spirit of fraternalism, Woods personified, even glorified, the principles laid down by the Founders in their conception of Sigma Nu. Of him Founder Hopkins wrote: "As I survey the whole field and accord to every Brother his full meed of praise, I can say of Clarence E. Woods, my best loved frater, the noblest Greek of them all, that he has done more for the Sigma Nu Fraternity than any other man, living or dead."

CHAPTER XXVIII

A Fraternity Finds Itself

THE last decade of Sigma Nu's first half-century of history was marked by consummate developments which followed the advent of Walter J. Sears into the administrative councils of the Fraternity. In a unique way, Sears drew into accord those divergent elements that had contributed to the remarkable growth of Sigma Nu, but which had not co-ordinated in the construction of a stable and continuing administrative system. Governmental methods had grown up around individuals instead of conforming to Bennett's plan, which was designed to centralize administration powers in the office of Grand Recorder. When the fiscal functions of this arrangement did not operate as intended, and Woods found his administration embarrassed by inherited financial difficulties, Heywood arose in the emergency, and a second administrative unit was established. As the work of the Fraternity grew in volume and in variety, the offices of Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer were given division of responsibilities according to the peculiar qualifications of Woods and Heywood. Other Grand Officers and even committees were given executive authority.

Sigma Nu had been well served by this divided effort during the years when expansion was the dominating aim in the Fraternity's development. In time, however, duplication of effort, conflict of methods and overlapping of jurisdiction caused political complications, and the general incompetency of the divided system became apparent. It was this condition of affairs which Regent Keesling had attempted to remedy by the centralization plan which he proposed at the Fourteenth Grand Chapter. The political situations in which Keesling's proposal became fatally involved had been overcome in the four years which had passed, and in the election of Walter Sears discordant forces had united in an attitude of confidence and affection that made his influence omnipotent.

The unharmonious elements which merged in support of Walter Sears were not unfraternal factions profaning fundamental principles of Sigma Nu because of their disagreement over the conduct of the Fraternity's affairs. Their honest differences and earnest advocacy of divergent views evidenced devotion to the welfare of the Order. The only personal element involved had been the question as to who best might serve and who might sacrifice most in the upbuilding of Sigma Nu. Contest had stimulated thought and zeal, and friction had furnished resistance from which came matured decision. It devolved upon

Walter Sears to determine the many defects of the divided administrative system, to draft a new form of government and to direct its adoption and inauguration.

For this service, Walter Sears was peculiarly equipped. His varied talents had drawn him into every angle of fraternity activity. His visits with the three Founders and with Howard and Robinson at their homes had given him extensive insight into early history and profound inspiration for his matchless fraternity writings. His intimacies with Bennett and Harrington, with Woods and Heywood, had gained him knowledge of administrative problems possessed to such extent by no other member of the Fraternity. In business circles, in civic affairs, in fraternal organizations, in collegiate connections, Walter Sears had acquired wide experience and broad vision.

Sears began his administration as Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*, July 1, 1913, the beginning of a fiscal year. The first issue of *The Delta* under his editorship, Volume XXXI, Number One, appeared in August, 1913. Its pages were illuminated with the brilliance of literary style possessed by the Author of The Creed of Sigma Nu. Yet there was a delightful informality in the editorial contributions which radiated the inviting warmth of human spirit so dominant in the complex nature of Walter Sears. The call to fraternal service, sounded in his editorials, summed up the impulses and the aspirations which for a quarter of a century had inspired his own labors for Sigma Nu:



WALTER J. SEARS, NU-BETA NU
Intimate picture of the Author of The Creed of Sigma Nu, as he appeared when Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*, 1913-15.

"To understand, as an integral part of the Great Brotherhood, its National purpose and spirit; to feel the pulse-beat of its vibrant Faith; to sense the binding force of its lasting Fellowships and to grasp the universal appeal of its message to young men—its message of Love, Honor and Truth;"

—this was the guiding aim which directed endeavors of Walter J. Sears as Editor of *The Delta* for a period of two years.

As Grand Recorder, Sears found his official connection little more than a clerkship. The office had been stripped of its original administrative power, and limitations had been set up which left the Grand Recorder with practically no latitude for initiative. Although supposed to be the Fraternity's correspond-

ing secretary, necessary records and vital information to which such an official should have ready access were in the keeping of the Vice Regent, who was also Inspector-General, or in the hands of the committee which administered Chapter house funds. This division of authority was contrary to scientific business principles. The superior talents and wide business experience which Sears brought into the office of Grand Recorder were virtually unavailing, because of this divided system of administration. Consequently, his efforts during two years in the Grand Recorder's office were devoted mainly to planning a new form of government, and in crystallizing sentiment in favor of a centralized system of administration based on sound business principles.

Sears began this necessary work of education by laying down several fundamental principles. First, he held that Sigma Nu could not build itself organ-



ARTHUR F. KRIPPNER, GAMMA LAMBDA
REGENT, 1912-15
University of Wisconsin alumnus, during whose regency the system of centralized administration was developed.

ically until it thought in terms of its national well-being. Second, he declared that the Fraternity could not make permanent internal improvement until it possessed the instrumentalities for conscious progress. Human progress, he asserted, was to be achieved only through human organization. Third, he contended that these progressive internal developments could come only by means of sane chapter supervision; and the whole purpose of the proposed centralized system was to reach this objective. Hence the General Secretary,

the Division Inspector, the Chapter Adviser -all with power to realize the aims and ideals of the Brotherhood. Fourth, he stated that the machinery of organization was to produce a nobler Brotherhood—not lifeless routine merely, not fiscal efficiency solely, not material power alone, but more fraternal devotion.

The plan which Sears devised converted the High Council into a board of directors to be elected by the Grand Chapter. All powers and duties of an executive and administrative character, previously exercised by members of the



WALTER E. MYERS, BETA IOTA
One of the leading proponents of the centralized system of administration, elected Grand Counselor in 1915.



ELLWOOD H. McCLELLAND, GAMMA EPSILON
Alumnus of the Lafayette College Chapter, who designed Sigma Nu's official Coat of Arms.

High Council and committees, were to be lodged in a single official to be known as a General Secretary, this official to be appointed by the High Council and to be subordinate to its direction. In working out the final details of the plan, preliminary to its presentation at the Seventeenth Grand Chapter, Sears conferred with Walter E. Myers, Beta Iota, then chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee. For assistance rendered in this connection, Myers deserves great credit.

The Seventeenth Grand Chapter met at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, Colorado, August 25-28, 1915. The summer dates were selected as an experiment, but the attendance total of one hundred and ninety did not prove convincing of general favor for the change from mid-winter meeting time. Inno-

vations in social features were made possible by a summer convention, however, and those attending the Seventeenth Grand Chapter were delightfully entertained by the Denver alumni under the enthusiastic leadership of Inspector O. S. Fowler. One day was devoted to a picnic at Glacier Lake, where the guests were taken by special train. Many familiar figures conspicuous at former Grand Chapters were missing at Denver. It was the first convention in twenty-five years that Past Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods had not attended. In the absence of other veterans, much of the important committee labor and floor leadership was assumed by Past Grand Treasurer Bixby Willis, an adept in matters of jurisprudence and finance, and a skilled parliamentarian.



THE FRATERNITY FLAG

Regent Arthur F. Krippner presided over the sessions of the Seventeenth Grand Chapter. During months of preconvention effort to get before the Fraternity the need for governmental changes, Regent Krippner had been a staunch ally of Grand Recorder Sears. His tactful leadership at Denver guided the plan past besetting situations and through cross-currents of opposition which threatened the success of Sears' proposals. Consideration of administrative reform became complicated by movements in behalf of candidates for High Council service. These conflicting elements created embarrassment at times during Grand Chapter proceedings, and the diplomacy of Regent Krippner was greatly responsible for controlling resultant situations.



SIGMA NU COAT OF ARMS

Grand Counselor Borden Burr and Walter E. Myers, chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee, were in active charge of the reorganization plan at the Grand Chapter, and deserve much credit for its acceptance by the delegates. Myers explained the provisions of the plan in formally presenting it for consideration. Sears made an eloquent plea for the adoption of the proposed system of administration, setting forth the principles underlying the changes it would bring about, the material gains, the scholastic benefits, the spiritual consequences that were possible of realiza-

tion under its provisions for adequate chapter supervision, which he declared was the vital aim. The plan adopted differed little from the original Sears draft. The question of composition of the High Council caused extended debate. Grand Counselor Burr was determined in his objection to the inclusion of the Grand Historian and Grand Chaplain on the Fraternity's board of directors, insisting that the functions of their offices had no relationship to administrative affairs. After the plan had been adopted, with the High Council reduced from six to four members, discordant elements united in bringing about



HORACE E. SIBSON
Gamma Theta
Cornell University



ERRETT R. NEWBY
Delta Epsilon
University of Oklahoma

Their joint endeavors were responsible for the creation and adoption of Sigma Nu's system of uniform chapter accounting.

a reconsideration. In one of the most tense situations in Grand Chapter history, Borden Burr made a dramatic appeal which won back a threatening majority, and saved the Sears plan from compromise.

The Seventeenth Grand Chapter adopted as official a Declaration of Principles which Grand Recorder Sears had prepared. A standing committee on scholarship was authorized. A standard size badge, to be given each initiate, was adopted. Provision was made for sending a bound volume of *The Delta* each year to each Collegiate Chapter. A law was passed prohibiting membership in Theta Nu Epsilon, Quo Vadis and similar interfraternity organizations. Hazing in connection with initiation ceremonies was forbidden by law. The Bennett Liturgy was adopted as the exclusive ritualistic service.



BIXBY WILLIS, LAMBDA
General Secretary, 1915-17, Past Grand Treasurer, alumnus of the Washington and Lee Chapter, selected to inaugurate the centralized administrative system.

A design for an official flag was adopted. But, inasmuch as no action was taken to rescind the provision for an official flag made by the Sixth Grand Chapter, it was not until such action was taken by the Eighteenth Grand Chapter that the new design became official. This official flag consists of three horizontal bars of equal width, black at the top, white in the center and gold at the bottom, with a coiled golden serpent in the center. An official Coat of Arms was approved, the design of which was the creation of Ellwood H. McClelland, Gamma Epsilon, Lafayette.

One of the most important actions of the Seventeenth Grand Chapter was the approval of a uniform system of chapter accounting. The forms adopted were principally the creation of Horace E. Sibson, Gamma Theta, Cornell, who as chairman of the committee on uniform accounting had given two years of study and effort in working out the details. Errett R. Newby, Delta Epsilon, Oklahoma, a member of the committee, collaborated with Sibson in the final development of the system, and presented the results of their joint labors before the Grand Chapter. To Sibson and Newby, the Fraternity is indebted for very great service in this important connection.

The Seventeenth Grand Chapter elected a High Council eminently qualified to inaugurate the new order of administration. Walter J. Sears was elected Regent; Borden Burr, Vice Regent; Samuel F. Pegues, Grand Treasurer; Walter



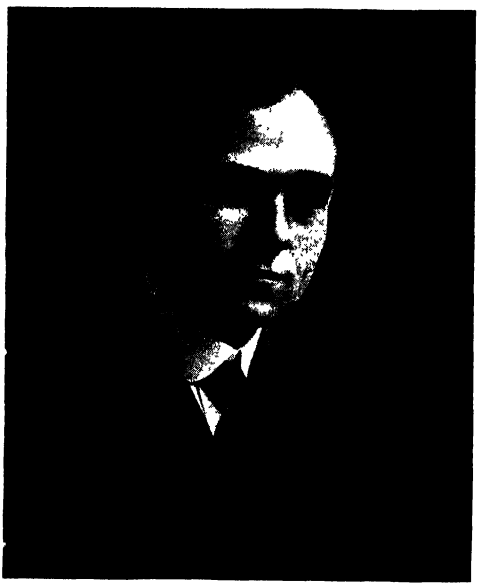
JOHN C. SCOTT, BETA ZETA
Editor of *The Delta* and Assistant General Secretary, 1915-16. Purdue alumnus who shared the inaugural work in connection with the establishment of Sigma Nu's national headquarters.

E. Myers, Grand Counselor. The other Grand Officers retained their connections, Chaplain Paul M. Spencer by re-election, and Historian Burton P. Sears holding over on a four-year term. Under the new system, the General Secretary and the Editor of *The Delta* were to be selected by the High Council. Inspectors were to be recommended by the General Secretary for appointment by the High Council. Chapter Advisers were provided for, to be selected by the General Secretary. An interregnum arrangement was agreed upon, which extended the terms of office of Regent Krippner and Grand Recorder Sears, pending the inauguration of the new order of administration.

The members of the High Council met in Louisville, Kentucky, October 16, 1915, for consideration of plans and personnel for the launching of the centralized administrative system. They agreed upon Indianapolis as the logical center for the location of the Fraternity's business offices. Bixby Willis, Lambda, Washington and Lee, was chosen General Secretary. John C. Scott, Beta Zeta, Purdue, was named Editor of *The Delta* and Assistant General Secretary. The General Offices were opened in the Lemcke Annex building in Indianapolis on November 1, 1915. On that date the interregnum period terminated, and Walter J. Sears became Regent of the Fraternity.

Bixby Willis brought into the new order of administration a knowledge of modern business methods and an understanding of fraternity affairs which

thoroughly qualified him to become the Fraternity's business manager. As Grand Treasurer, as chairman of Jurisprudence and of Finance Committees, as personal representative of Regents Dyer and Ellis on special missions to revive and to redirect Collegiate Chapters, Willis had gained experience which enabled him to undertake with confidence the duties of General Secretary. Scott had served under Woods as an unofficial assistant in connection with *The Delta*, and in a similar relationship had rendered aid to Walter Sears during his editorship. He had wide and intimate acquaintance with members of the Fraternity, gained in regular attendance at Grand Chapters, and in visits to Collegiate Chapters and alumni centers in every section of the country.



EDWIN W. DUNLAVY, BETA BETA
General Secretary, 1917-21
Editor of *The Delta*, 1916-21
DePauw Chapter Alumnus, who directed the administrative affairs of Sigma Nu during the critical years of the World War.

These two officials, selected to inaugurate the central offices, had such a combination of talents, knowledge, experience and continuing enthusiasm that much was expected from their joint labors. But they did not have the physical endurance to sustain them in the immense amount of work in connection with the concentration of scattered administrative offices and the organization of the new centralized system. Confusion among the Chapters, then starting upon a new college year, with the old system abandoned and the new order in process of organization, multiplied difficulties. Heroic service was rendered during that inaugural year at the General Offices. Before the year was ended Scott was forced by ill health to resign. The fourth and last number of *The Delta* under his editorship was issued in October, 1916. For more than a year after the opening of the General Offices, Willis battled against recurrence of a breakdown which he had suffered following his work in reviving Alpha Chapter during Regent Ellis' administration. Reduced in vitality and unequal to the demands of the office, he gave up his work as General Secretary at the end of June, 1917.

One of the signal achievements of that period for which Willis deserves credit was the publication of the fourth catalogue of the Fraternity, a volume of six hundred and sixty-eight pages, with lists of members indexed alphabetically and geographically and containing complete chapter rolls with col-

legiate honors, literary and professional achievements, business and social connections of each living member. Although this catalogue was not issued until the year after Willis retired from the office of General Secretary, he inaugurated the undertaking and planned its extensive scope, which made an invaluable record of the Fraternity's membership. Willis devised many of the printed forms and organized much of the detail work of the General Offices, which became the basis for procedure at the Fraternity's national headquarters.

Edwin W. Dunlavy, Beta Beta, DePauw, succeeded John Scott as Editor of *The Delta*, October 1, 1916. The office of Assistant General Secretary remained unfilled until April 1, 1917, when Harry A. Rider, Delta Zeta, Western Reserve, accepted the appointment. On July 1, 1917, Dunlavy succeeded Bixby Willis as General Secretary. In the meantime the United States had been drawn into the World War. Chapters were depleted or disorganized by enlistments and the responsibilities of the General Offices were greatly increased and complicated. In this situation Dunlavy and Rider rendered unique service to the Fraternity.



HARRY A. RIDER, DELTA ZETA
Charter member of the Western Reserve Chapter, elected Assistant General Secretary in 1917, inaugurating an extended official connection that in 1921 embraced the editorship of *The Delta*.

Dunlavy came into prominence in Sigma Nu through oratorical triumphs under DePauw's banner. His first service to the general Fraternity was in connection with song-book preparation, when Beta Beta Chapter had charge of that work. He helped organize the Boston Alumni Chapter while studying for the ministry in that city and represented the Sigma Nus of Boston at the Eleventh Grand Chapter in 1902. He had won recognition as a contributor to *The Delta* and was considered one of the Fraternity's foremost orators.

Harry Rider was a charter member of the Western Reserve Chapter and represented the Cleveland Alumni Chapter at the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Grand Chapters. After securing his M. A. degree at Harvard he returned to Reserve, where for a number of years he had charge of the Library of Research in Government. He resumed his chapter affiliations and pursued fraternity work with such enthusiasm and with evidence of such unusual talent that he was brought into the broader field of effort. Rider was trained in detail work, and as Assistant General Secretary took charge of General Office routine. With Dunlavy's leadership and Rider's efficiency the Fraternity was well equipped to meet emergencies growing out of World War conditions.

The rush to the colors which followed America's declaration of war in April,



WALTER J. SEARS, NU-BETA NU

Alumnus of the University of Kansas and Ohio State University Chapters; Author of "Letters to My College Fraternity," "The Valley of Virginia," and "A Pilgrimage to the Founders." Author of The Creed of Sigma Nu. Grand Historian, 1904-12; Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*, 1913-15; Regent, 1915-17: Universally regarded pre-eminent in Sigma Nu as a leader, inspirationist, counselor, preceptor.

1917, left practically every Chapter of Sigma Nu without sufficient members to carry on normal activities. All the Chapters but one opened in the fall of 1917, the enlistment of every collegiate member of Beta Chi, Stanford, having left that Chapter without a nucleus to resume operations. Various ways were found to meet emergencies that confronted the Chapters. Fraternity houses were shared with other Greek-letter organizations in some places in order to meet financial obligations. In some instances Chapters joined with other fraternities only in maintaining table arrangements. Problems of chapter house management, which concerned most Chapters at the beginning of war activity, were settled very generally when the government took over most of the fraternity houses for use as dormitories in connection with student training camps that were conducted at many colleges and universities.

The Division Inspectors rendered great assistance to the General Offices in working out chapter problems caused by war conditions. Those serving during the period between the date of opening of the General Offices and the time of meeting of the Eighteenth Grand Chapter were as follows: I, A. Dawson Trundle, Lambda; II. Oscar Palmour, Kappa; III, Augustus H. Alston, Theta; IV, Raymond J. Magee, Beta Eta, and Alfred C. Evens, Beta Beta; V, Lawrence L. Hopkins, Delta Alpha; VI, Frederic W. Bremier, Delta Delta; VII, George A. Smith, Beta Zeta; VIII, Walter Scott, Beta Iota, and E. Kirk Smith, Beta Iota-Delta Lambda; IX, Homer B. Vanderblue, Gamma Beta, and John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi; X, John H. Kraft, Gamma Sigma; XI, Hal H. Lynch, Gamma Omicron; XII, Errett R. Newby, Delta Epsilon; XIII, John D. Ewing, Alpha, and John E. Rosser, Xi-Sigma; XIV, Ernest L. Williams, Gamma Kappa; XV, Hiram C. Sampson, Beta Eta; XVI, Joseph B. Knapp, Beta Zeta; XVI, George W. Weeks, Beta Psi, and Charles B. Evans, Beta Chi.

The High Council was called upon for extraordinary service during the two years following the opening of the General Offices, which period embraced the inaugural months of war activity. Frequent meetings were held at Indianapolis to consider emergency situations and to confer upon the progress of the new plan of administration. It was fortunate that the new system of government was in operation when war was declared. The power centered in the High Council provided authority and the central office created the medium through which the Fraternity was prepared to meet unprecedented experiences with less disorder than affected college fraternities generally. It was with a sense of pride that Walter Sears, in his Regent's message to the Eighteenth Grand Chapter, revealed the results of the two-year test of his plan, which had been instituted under such trying circumstances.

The Eighteenth Grand Chapter originally had been called to convene at Cleveland, Ohio, September 5, 1917. The country's entry into the war necessitated postponement since many of the delegates selected prior to the call to arms had entered the service and until the Chapters reorganized in the fall other delegates could not be named. The Eighteenth Grand Chapter met at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland, December 31, 1917, January 1-2, 1918. With many of the delegates and visitors clad in khaki and the spirit of patriotism rampant this biennial meeting was unique in its spiritual manifestations.

Under the inspiring leadership of Regent Walter J. Sears a fervency of feeling was maintained throughout the sessions, making this Grand Chapter memorable in that respect. The occasion was glorified by the presence of Rawson Bennett, Grant Harrington and Clarence Woods. It was the first time in twenty-one years that these three veterans had met together in Grand Chapter. This was Bennett's twelfth Grand Chapter and the thirteenth that Clarence Woods had attended.

Collegiate delegates at the Eighteenth Grand Chapter were generally underclassmen, the war call having nearly depleted the Chapters of older members. Deliberations were confined almost entirely to consideration of ways and means of meeting immediate needs of the Fraternity and legislative action was limited. A law was passed making it mandatory for all chapter house building companies to obtain High Council consent before beginning to build and directing that annual reports be filed with the General Secretary. Provision was made for a biennial meeting of Inspectors at the General Offices to be held on alternate years between Grand Chapters.

Vice Regent Borden Burr was made Regent at the Eighteenth Grand Chapter. George A. Smith, Beta Zeta, Purdue, Inspector of the Seventh Division, was elected Vice Regent. Grand Treasurer Samuel F. Pegues, Grand Counselor Walter E. Myers, Grand Historian Burton P. Sears and Grand Chaplain Paul M. Spencer were re-elected.

The spiritual tone of the Eighteenth Grand Chapter, which throughout was consonant with the oft-sounded notes of Regent Sears' sentiment, reached a climax in a symphony of affection when on behalf of the delegates Clarence Woods presented to the Author of The Creed of Sigma Nu a copy of his masterpiece done in silver-plated copper. Upon this tribute of love was inscribed:

"A Memorial to Walter James Sears, pre-eminent Sigma Nu, who lives in the hearts of his fraternity brethren throughout the world. Initiated 1889 at Nu, University of Kansas. Founder of Beta Nu Chapter, Ohio State University, and Beta Iota, Mount Union College. Grand Historian, Editor, Grand Recorder and Most Eminent Regent. Author of The Creed of Sigma Nu. Scholar, Gentleman, Patriot, Friend."

During the period of four and one-half years that Walter Sears served on the High Council eight new Chapters were added to the roll of Sigma Nu. A charter was granted by referendum vote in the spring of 1914 to the Nevada Club of the University of Nevada. Sigma Nu was the first national fraternity to enter this institution, established at Reno in 1885. Three local Greek-letter societies organized several years before the entrance of Sigma Nu were granted charters later by national fraternities. The Nevada Club, which became Delta Xi Chapter of Sigma Nu, was organized in 1911 by five students previously bound together by Masonic ties. Members of the two California Chapters were principally responsible for bringing the group into contact with Sigma Nu. Delta Xi Chapter was installed August 22, 1914, with ten charter members. Installation ceremonies were in charge of Inspector Walter S. McGilvray, Beta Chi, Stanford. Representatives from Beta Chi, Stanford, and from Beta Psi, University of California, had charge of the ritualistic ceremonies.

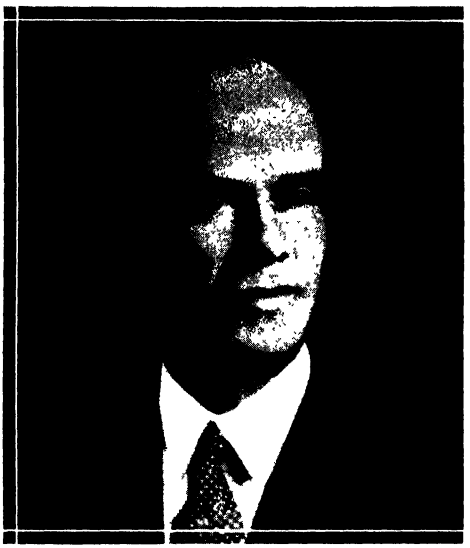
Early in the year 1915 a charter was granted by referendum vote to the Zeta Delta local at the University of Idaho. At this institution, established at Moscow in 1892, Kappa Sigma had entered in 1905 and Phi Delta Theta in 1908. Beta Theta Pi entered the same year as did Sigma Nu. The Zeta Delta local which Sigma Nu chartered was organized in 1910, with national affiliation its objective. Professor Clyde C. Tull, Beta Beta, DePauw, became faculty adviser of the local and was responsible for its decision to petition Sigma Nu. Frank D. Allen, Beta Chi, Stanford, and Hiram C. Sampson, Beta Eta, Indiana, leaders of the Spokane Alumni Chapter, were most active in supporting the Idaho petition. As Division Inspector, Allen had charge of the installation of Delta Omicron Chapter on May 22, 1915. He was assisted by representatives from the Chapters in the States of Washington, Oregon and Montana.

Charters were granted by the Seventeenth Grand Chapter in 1915 to groups at Colorado State Agricultural College and George Washington University. Sigma Nu was the first national fraternity to enter Colorado Agricultural College, a state institution established at Fort Collins in 1879. The charter was granted to the Alpha Kappa Epsilon local which was organized in 1903. Through members of Gamma Eta and Gamma Kappa the group was brought into touch with Sigma Nu. Inspector O. S. Fowler, Gamma Kappa, Colorado, supported by the Denver Alumni Chapter, sponsored the petition and won Grand Chapter approval. Ten members of Alpha Kappa Epsilon were initiated at a session of the Seventeenth Grand Chapter. These initiates conducted the initiatory service at the installation of Delta Rho Chapter, October 2, 1915, when twenty-nine alumni and collegiate members of Alpha Kappa Epsilon were made Sigma Nus. Inspector Fowler, assisted by Grand Chaplain Paul M. Spencer, installed Delta Rho Chapter.

Although Delta Pi Chapter at George Washington University was installed after Delta Rho, it was given antecedence in the order of Greek-letter nomenclature because its charter was the first of the two granted by the Seventeenth Grand Chapter. George Washington University, founded at Washington, D. C., as Columbian College in 1821, and prior to 1904 known as Columbian University, had been entered by ten national fraternities before the advent of Sigma Nu. A Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, established there in 1858, became dormant in 1869 and was revived in 1905. Sigma Chi entered in 1864. Chapters established by Phi Kappa Psi in 1868 and by Alpha Tau Omega in 1874 became extinct after several years of existence. Kappa Sigma entered in 1892; Kappa Alpha (S) in 1894; Theta Delta Chi, 1896; Phi Sigma Kappa, 1899; Delta Tau Delta, 1903; and Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1909. The Alpha Beta Phi local, chartered by Sigma Nu, was organized in 1904. It was inspired to Sigma Nu ambition by Past Regent A. H. Wilson, who labored diligently in behalf of the petition and who was instrumental in securing favorable action upon it at the Denver Grand Chapter. The petition had been actively sponsored by the Washington Alumni Chapter under the aggressive leadership of Inspector Roy C. Cox, Beta Theta, Alabama Polytechnic. The Chapter, known as Delta Pi, was installed on October 23, 1915, by Inspector Cox. Past Regent

Wilson presided as Eminent Commander at the initiation of twenty-seven collegiate members and sixteen alumni of the Alpha Beta Phi local.

On October 6, 1916, Delta Sigma Chapter was installed at Carnegie Institute of Technology, the first Chapter of a national fraternity to be established at this institution, founded at Pittsburgh in 1905. The Beta Theta Epsilon local, chartered by Sigma Nu, was organized in 1907. Its contact with the Fraternity came through Delta Delta Chapter of Pennsylvania State College. Roy L. Bovard, Delta Delta, as president of the Pittsburgh Alumni Chapter, led the movement in behalf of this petition, which for three years the alumni of Pittsburgh were persistent in advocating. The Pittsburgh Alumni Chapter installed Delta Sigma Chapter and conducted the initiation of forty-six alumni and collegiate members of Beta Theta Epsilon into Sigma Nu.



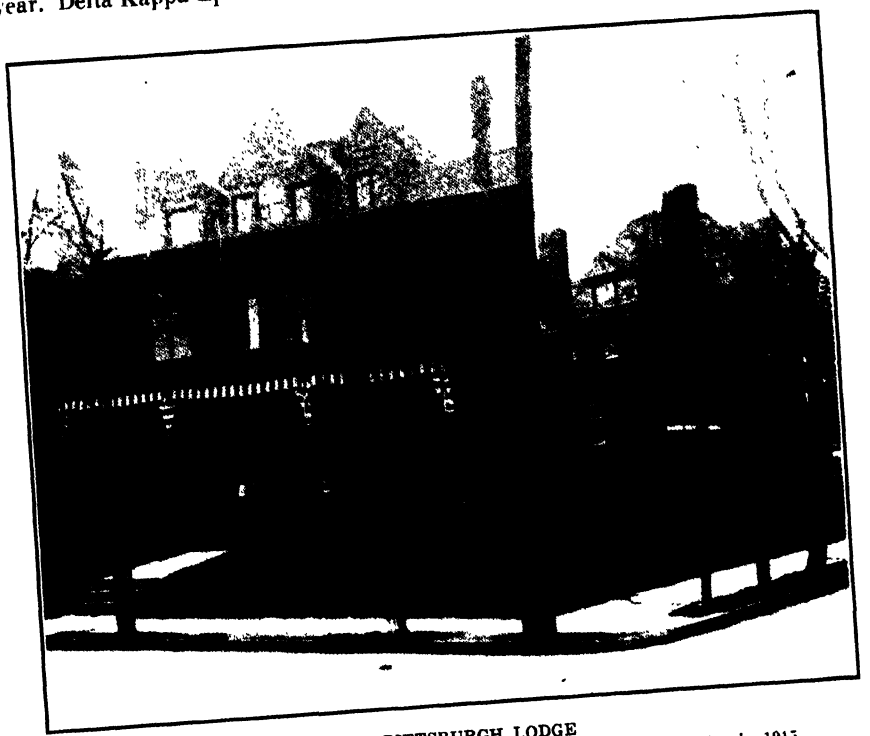
ROY L. BOVARD, DELTA DELTA
Charter member of the Penn State Chapter, a leader in the founding of Delta Sigma at Carnegie Tech and in the establishment of the Pittsburgh Alumni Lodge.

The Pittsburgh Alumni Chapter for years had been one of the most enthusiastic and progressive in its activities. On March 11, 1914, the Pittsburgh Sigma Nu Alumni Lodge Association was organized for the purpose of securing and maintaining a home for resident alumni. The Association acquired a lease on the property at 5599 Baum Boulevard in Pittsburgh, where was opened on May 1, 1914, Sigma Nu's first Alumni Lodge. The movement in behalf of the Carnegie "Tech" petition was accelerated by the establishment of alumni headquarters in Pittsburgh, and through this development Delta Sigma Chapter was provided with a strong supporting organization. The work of Roy L. Bovard was outstanding in the organization of this alumni lodge association and in ministering to Delta Sigma Chapter during its early years.

Delta Tau Chapter was installed at Oregon Agricultural College, April 28, 1917. Oregon Agricultural College, founded at Corvallis in 1872, had two national fraternities before Sigma Nu entered, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Kappa Sigma having placed Chapters there in 1915. A Chapter of Alpha Tau Omega, established at Corvallis in 1882, died out within a year. Sigma Nu chartered Gamma Upsilon, a local organized in 1910. The Chapter was installed by Inspector Joseph B. Knapp, Beta Zeta, Purdue, assisted by Oliver H. Huston, Gamma Zeta, Oregon. Thirteen alumni of the Gamma Upsilon local were

initiated with the twenty-seven collegiate members who constituted the original Delta Tau Chapter. The initiations were conducted by representatives from the Washington and Oregon Chapters.

Sigma Nu entered Colgate University in May, 1917, by chartering Theta Delta Sigma, a local organized in 1914. Colgate was originally Madison University, founded at Hamilton, New York, in 1846. Alpha Delta Phi inaugurated the Hellenic movement there in 1850, its Chapter dying out the next year. Delta Kappa Epsilon successfully established a Chapter there in 1856 and



THE PITTSBURGH LODGE
Nu's first alumni lodge, acquired by the Pittsburgh Alumni Chapter in 1915.

Delta Upsilon in 1865. Delta Phi existed but two years after its entry in 1874. Beta Theta Pi entered in 1880; Phi Gamma Delta and Phi Kappa Psi in 1883; Theta Chi in 1912. Lambda Chi Alpha and Alpha Tau Omega entered the same year as did Sigma Nu. The decision to petition Sigma Nu resulted from an investigation made by the Theta Delta Sigma local without influence from any member of Sigma Nu. An inquiry addressed to Gamma Psi Chapter, Syracuse, resulted in a visit to Colgate by George A. Smith, Beta Zeta, Purdue, then Division Inspector. Because of his efforts in their behalf Smith became regarded by the charter members of Delta Upsilon as the Chapter's founder. Inspector Smith installed the Chapter May 11-12, 1917, assisted by Past Regent Wilson and

Grand Chaplain Spencer. Six alumni members of the Theta Delta Sigma local were included in the thirty-four initiates at the installation of Delta Upsilon Chapter.

On November 27, 1917, Delta Phi Chapter was installed at Maryland State College, which institution, founded at College Park in 1859, was merged into the University of Maryland in 1920. Greek-letter organizations had been pro-



FRANK D. ALLEN, BETA CHI



JOSEPH B. KNAPP, BETA ZETA

Inspectors of the Northwest Division, who directed culminating extension movements in that section.

hibited at Maryland State College until in 1912, when the Gamma Pi local was given faculty recognition. Other locals were organized soon afterward, and in 1914 one of them was chartered by Kappa Alpha (S). This development caused Past Regent A. H. Wilson to investigate the situation, with the result that contact was formed with Gamma Pi, the pioneer local at College Park. After a probation period of nearly three years the Gamma Pi local was granted a Sigma Nu charter by referendum vote and the installation of Delta Phi Chapter was authorized. The ceremonies were held at the Sigma Nu house at George Washington University, College Park being but eight miles from Washington, D. C. Inspector A. Dawson Trundle, Lambda, Washington and Lee, was officially in charge. Members of the Washington Alumni Chapter and of Delta Pi conducted the initiation of nineteen charter members of Delta Phi Chapter.

Two New England Chapters were added to the Eastern realm of Sigma Nu in the spring of 1918, when charters were granted to locals at Trinity and

Bowdoin colleges. Past Regent A. H. Wilson was mainly responsible for bringing both groups into Sigma Nu. Trinity College, founded as Washington College at Hartford, Connecticut, in 1823, acquired its present name in 1845. Delta Psi entered Trinity in 1850; Delta Upsilon in 1869, ceasing existence in



GLENN E. MILLER
GAMMA LAMBDA

OLIVER B. HUSTON
GAMMA ZETA

HIRAM C. SAMPSON
BETA ETA

Alumni residing in the Northwest who assisted in the founding and installation of several Chapters in that section.

1876; Alpha Delta Phi, 1877; Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1879; Psi Upsilon, 1880; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1892, becoming defunct in 1899; Phi Gamma Delta, 1893. In 1895 the national fraternity Alpha Chi Rho was founded at Trinity. Sigma Nu chartered the Sigma Psi local organized in 1911. Contact with the Fraternity was created through William F. English, charter member of Delta Beta, Dartmouth. English established communication between Wilson and members of Sigma Psi in 1917, and for more than a year Wilson labored for this link in the chain of Eastern Chapters founded by him. Sigma Psi became Delta Chi of Sigma Nu, March 16, 1918. Inspector E. Kirk Smith, Beta Iota-Delta Lambda, installed the Chapter. A team from Gamma Delta, Stevens, initiated twenty-six members of Sigma Psi into Sigma Nu.

Bowdoin College, located at Brunswick, Maine, was incorporated in 1794 while Maine was still a part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It was opened to students in 1802. Alpha Delta Phi established a Chapter there in 1841; Psi Upsilon, 1843; Chi Psi, 1844, becoming inactive in 1866; Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1844; Theta Delta Chi, 1854; Delta Upsilon, 1857; Zeta Psi,

1868; Kappa Sigma, 1895; Beta Theta Pi, 1900. Chi Psi revived its Chapter in 1918, following the entrance of Sigma Nu. The Beta Chi local, chartered by Sigma Nu, was organized in 1914. Through Delta Nu, University of Maine, the group was put in contact with Past Regent Wilson, who visited



EDSON KIRK SMITH
BETA IOTA-DELTA LAMBDA



IRVING L. RICH
BETA SIGMA

Division Inspectors who participated in important Chapter foundings and installations in the New England States.

Brunswick and mapped out a petitioning campaign. The Boston and Providence Alumni Chapters rendered valuable assistance to the petitioners. The Bowdoin Chapter was installed as Delta Psi, April 27, 1918. Inspector E. Kirk Smith, who had worked diligently in behalf of the petition, was installing officer and served as Eminent Commander of the degree team from Providence, which initiated twenty-seven collegiate members and seven alumni of the Beta Chi local.

In June, 1918, Epsilon Alpha Chapter was installed at the University of Arizona. This institution, located at Tucson, was opened to students in 1891. Kappa Sigma entered Arizona in 1915 and Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1917. The Sigma Phi Beta local, organized in 1911, was chartered by Sigma Nu. James F. McKale, Gamma Gamma, Albion, athletic coach at Arizona, led the group of alumni living in Tucson, who were responsible for the founding of Epsilon Alpha Chapter. McKale was in charge of the installation ceremonies held June 3, 1918, and was a member of the team composed of resident alumni, initiating nineteen members of the Sigma Phi Beta local.

The Arizona Chapter was the last of six installed by Sigma Nu during the period that the United States was in the World War, the others being the Chapters at Oregon Agricultural College, Colgate, Maryland, Trinity and Bowdoin. This widespread progress was indicative of the success with which Sigma Nu maintained its normal functions during the war period. Through the facilities provided by the centralized administrative system the Fraternity readily adjusted itself to chaotic conditions following the declaration of war, when Chapters were seriously disorganized. The establishment of student training camps at colleges and universities counteracted in great measure the loss in attendance through early enlistments. Although chapter life was limited with chapter houses in most places converted into training camp dormitories, the need for fraternal contact and for organized fellowship was even greater than under normal conditions.

Sigma Nu ministered to the spiritual welfare of its members in war service through a system of registration zealously conducted at the Fraternity's headquarters by Assistant General Secretary Rider. This roll of Knights of the Legion of Honor, who enlisted as Knights of the Republic, was carried in *The Delta*, and through this medium fraternity associations were fostered and were made more treasured during the years when chapter fellowship was limited. Alumni meetings were arranged in Paris, London and in other foreign centers of soldier concentration as well as in training camps in this country. Inter-chapter relationships were extended and were made more intimate by this intermingling of members. Through chapter affiliations resulting from military transfers and through the legalized practice of initiating pledges whose enlistment prevented their return to shrines where they were pledged, inter-chapter bonds were further strengthened.

More than five thousand Sigma Nus, nearly forty per cent of the Fraternity's living members, were in World War service. More than one hundred of these gave their lives. The names of a number of pledges who died in the service were placed on the membership rolls. With its money, as with its men, Sigma Nu responded to the country's call, investing nine thousand dollars in Liberty bonds, Victory bonds and War Savings stamps.

During the college year 1919-20, the year after the close of the war, normal conditions very generally were restored. A great increase in college attendance over pre-war records was manifest throughout the country, induced, it was believed, by the influence of the student training camps, which drew many into collegiate contact who otherwise would not have matriculated. Fraternities had been brought into higher favor by their co-operation during wartime and impetus was given to extension activity in most Greek-letter organizations.

In the fall of 1919 Sigma Nu established Epsilon Beta Chapter at Drury College, the culmination of one of the most patient and persistent charter quests in the history of the Fraternity. Drury College, originally known as Springfield College, was founded at Springfield, Missouri, in 1873. Kappa Alpha (S)

established a Chapter there in 1906. The Obelisk Fraternity, organized in 1911, had Sigma Nu aspirations from its beginning, the standing of the Fraternity in the State having influenced this desire. During eight years of determined effort ten members of Obelisk had become members of Sigma Nu upon transfer to other institutions, this recognition of the Obelisk Fraternity's personnel having been given by the Chapters at the University of Missouri,



JOHN R. SAMPEY, IOTA
GRAND CHAPLAIN, 1920-21
Early member of the original Chapter at Howard College, elected Grand Chaplain at the Nineteenth Grand Chapter.



ERNEST L. WILLIAMS
GAMMA KAPPA
Charter member of the University of Colorado Chapter, Inspector Division XIV, elected Grand Counselor in 1919.

Washington, Cornell and Columbia Universities. Through Walter Rogers Primm, member of Obelisk, initiated by Delta Gamma Chapter at Columbia University, Past Regent Wilson was brought into active support of the Drury petition, and to the efforts of Primm and Wilson its success mainly was due. Epsilon Beta Chapter was installed December 17, 1919, by Inspector Hal H. Lynch, Gamma Omicron, Washington University. With members of the University of Missouri Chapter officiating, forty-six members of the Obelisk Fraternity were initiated into Sigma Nu.

The Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of Sigma Nu was celebrated at the Nineteenth Grand Chapter, held at the Planters Hotel in St. Louis, December 31, 1919, January 1-2, 1920. Founder Greenfield Quarles was present and made the occasion memorable by an inspiring address, "The Birth of Sigma Nu." Grant Harrington and Carl Lane Clemans, leaders of the Fraternity's pioneering

ventures in the West, Clarence Woods and Ferd Heywood, during whose joint administrations national development was realized, represented these two major periods of the Fraternity's growth at this celebration of Sigma Nu's half-century anniversary. Three hundred and forty-eight members were in attendance.

The first annual meeting of Division Inspectors, postponed because of war conditions from the time appointed by the previous Grand Chapter, was held December 30, the day before the Nineteenth Grand Chapter convened. Fourteen of the seventeen Inspectors were present. This round-table assembly of Division representatives was characterized by Regent Burr as one of the greatest steps toward internal improvement that the Fraternity had made or ever could make. In this conference where experiences were discussed, ideas were exchanged and plans for the future were developed, the most important work of the convention was done. The Inspectors, who by their presence inaugurated this epochal conference and the Divisions represented by them, were: II, Oscar Palmour, Kappa; III, Manly R. Joiner, Iota-Gamma Kappa; V, Perry D. Caldwell, Beta Iota-Delta Zeta; VI, Roswell Phillips, Gamma Epsilon; VII, Albert H. Wilson, Beta Iota; VIII, Raymond H. Segur, Delta Chi; IX, John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi; X, William L. Randall, Delta Eta; XI, Hal H. Lynch, Gamma Omicron; XII, Grant W. Harrington, Nu; XIV, Ernest L. Williams, Gamma Kappa; XV, J. Houston McCroskey, Delta Iota; XVI, Claude J. Hunt, Beta Beta; XVII, Otto K. Grau, Beta Chi. Inspectors not present, who also had served during the interim between Grand Chapters, were: I, A. Dawson Trundle, Lambda, and his successor, William R. Edgar, Delta Kappa; III, Augustus H. Alston, Theta, who preceded Inspector Joiner; IV, Alfred C. Evens, Beta Beta; XIII, John E. Rosser, Xi-Sigma.



GEORGE A. SMITH
BETA ZETA
Father of the Permanent Endowment Fund, alumnus of the Purdue Chapter. Vice Regent, 1917-1921.

Regent Burr presided over the sessions of the Nineteenth Grand Chapter with grace and dispatch never excelled at a Sigma Nu convention. The delegates evidenced their approval of the Fraternity's system of government and policy by enacting little legislation. A proposal for a permanent endowment fund was the principal topic of discussion during the sessions, resulting in the giving of authority to the High Council to work out the details of a plan for life membership subscriptions and to put it into operation. Vice Regent George A. Smith inaugurated this endowment fund movement in an article in

The Delta, March, 1916, when he was a Division Inspector. Similar proposals had been suggested in a general way, but no definite plan previously had been submitted. George Smith acquired his ideas and his inspiration not from the suggestions of others, but from his own experiences during several years of intensive service as an official of the New York Alumni Chapter. His plan was conceived and constructed wholly through his own initiative, and single-handed he championed his proposal until he became a member of the High



WARREN J. PIPER,
GAMMA BETA



JOHN T. NELSON,
GAMMA BETA

Alumni of the Chapter at Northwestern University, who composed the words and music of "The White Star of Sigma Nu," the Fraternity's official song.

Council. Smith's vigorous advocacy of his plan at the Nineteenth Grand Chapter won other leaders to its support with the result that preliminary steps were then taken toward one of the most progressive and important achievements in the Fraternity's history.

In exuberant demonstration of fraternity spirit the Nineteenth Grand Chapter was unusual. This was in great measure due to the results of a campaign conducted by Warren Piper, Gamma Beta, Northwestern, as chairman of a standing Committee on Songs. The Seventeenth Grand Chapter, in 1915, had authorized an award of twenty-five dollars for an original composition to be selected as the official song of Sigma Nu. A number of songs selected by the committee as meritorious were submitted to the Nineteenth Grand Chapter for trial and decision, with the result that under Warren Piper's direction this became a singing Grand Chapter. One of the many original songs introduced

on this occasion was entitled "The White Star of Sigma Nu", and it won instant favor. It was chosen as the official song of Sigma Nu, and the cash prize was awarded to Jack T. Nelson, Gamma Beta, Northwestern, as the composer. At a later time, it was revealed that Warren Piper himself had written the stirring words of this song, and that he had declined to permit his authorship of the lyric to be known while he was acting chairman of the committee. The full credit for the music of "The White Star of Sigma Nu" belongs to Jack T. Nelson, and full credit for the words belongs to Warren Piper.



PAST REGENT RAWSON BENNETT
As he appeared at Grand Chapters during late years of his useful life.

The farewell message of Past Regent Rawson Bennett was sent to the Nineteenth Grand Chapter in greetings appropriate to Sigma Nu's semi-centennial celebration. With characteristic foresight, Bennett wrote:

"If one who has seen the days of small things in Sigma Nu may offer a word of counsel on this day of well-justified rejoicing over great things done, and greater yet to do, it is this: '*Nihil actum credens dum quid superesset agendum.* Deeming naught done where aught remains to do!'

"Our predestined dominions are not yet fully occupied. They never will be. That is an inspiring thought. For the tree that can no longer grow is ready to begin to die. Let the truth guard you against the degenerating vice of self-complacency. Be proud not of what we have done, but that there remains to us opportunity to do more. Strive with all your strength to think forward and to think nationally. When Sigma Nu is viewed with vision limited to the wants and needs of a Brother's own Chapter, it is viewed through the wrong end of the telescope. Turn the glass around and see how great and splendid is Sigma Nu, and how much greater and more splendid it can be made."

The Nineteenth Grand Chapter elevated Grand Counselor Walter E. Myers to the regency. Vice Regent George A. Smith and Grand Treasurer Samuel F. Pegues were re-elected. Ernest Lee Williams, Gamma Kappa, Colorado, Inspector of the Rocky Mountain Division, was made Grand Counselor. Grand Historian Burton P. Sears retained his office to which he had been elected for a



BORDEN BURR, THETA-LAMBDA

Alumnus of the University of Alabama and Washington and Lee Chapters, Grand Counselor, 1912-15; Vice Regent, 1915-17; Regent, 1917-19. His influence was invaluable in vital developments that marked the years of his official service.

four-year term. The Rev. John R. Sampey, Iota, Howard College, eminent as a minister, educator and author, was elected Grand Chaplain.

The strength and character of Sigma Nu's leadership, evidenced in the high-type personnel of the High Council and Inspectors, was an impressive revelation of the Nineteenth Grand Chapter. Paramount in creating this respect was the influence of Regent Burr's commanding abilities and personality. His admirable conduct of this Grand Chapter was characteristic of his official service that had spanned the two decades, during which Sigma Nu's legislative and administrative functions had been transformed from a status of instability and uncertainty to a system that had become recognized as a model among Greek-letter fraternities. From the time of meeting of the Ninth Grand Chapter at Atlanta, in 1898, when as a Collegiate Chapter delegate Burr served as chairman of a special Jurisprudence Committee, his unusual energies and versatile faculties had been devoted to the upbuilding of his Fraternity. It is noteworthy and significant that Borden Burr was officially connected with three major movements, marking the progress of Sigma Nu's financial and administrative development. At Atlanta, in 1898, he aided in drafting the system that inaugurated fiscal reforms instituted by Grand Treasurer Heywood. At Denver, in 1915, he was a strong factor in securing the adoption of the Sears centralization scheme, and by his memorable appeal saved the plan from serious compromise. His influence at the Nineteenth Grand Chapter overcame skepticism as to the feasibility of the endowment fund proposal, and thus Borden Burr was officially linked with the inauguration of a third major progressive movement.

The seven years that Burr had been a member of the High Council were productive of more vital developments than had resulted during any period of the same extent in the history of the Fraternity. Walter Sears and Borden Burr were elected to the High Council contemporaneously. Together they embraced more elements of fraternity leadership, greater variety of fraternity experience and larger grasp of fraternity affairs than had been shared by any two other contemporary officials of Sigma Nu. The climactic years of their fraternity careers drew them together into an association of distinguished service that merged the record of achievements marking their administrations. Through the inspiration and under the direction of Walter Sears and Borden Burr, Sigma Nu was led to a deeper appreciation of its ideals; to a broader realization of its responsibilities; to a nobler understanding of its opportunities. During the years of their leadership the Fraternity found itself.

CHAPTER XXIX

The System of Fraternal Service

THE college Greek-letter fraternity system had been radically transformed in composition and in spirit during the half-century that Sigma Nu was attaining its position among Hellenic rivals. The number of organizations, general in character and national in extent, had more than doubled in that period. Factors in this numerical increase and spiritual conversion were the wonderful development of state universities and of institutions offering instruction in applied arts and science, and the generation of a more democratic spirit in their heterogeneous student bodies than had prevailed in the liberal arts colleges, where the early progenitors of the Greek-letter fraternity system generally confined their Chapters. Sigma Nu entered the national arena of Hellenic activity on the eve of this broadened activity. Unrestrained by limitations of precedent and unhampered by antiquated policies and processes, the Fraternity became a leading exponent of the ideals and ambitions characterizing the ultimate development of the college fraternity system. In this respect, Sigma Nu is privileged to look back upon the achievements of its first fifty years with the pride of a victorious pioneer.

Entering the second half-century of its existence, Sigma Nu again was situated in a unique position to command and to maintain a place of leadership in manifesting the purpose and in demonstrating the power and the possibilities of the college fraternity. Its administrative system gave the Fraternity exceptional facilities, and was the means of developing an executive personnel, qualified through experience and proven in service, capable of understanding the problems of its collegiate members, and competent to minister to their needs. Sigma Nu was the first national fraternity of college men to apply practical methods of successful business organizations through a board empowered to appoint general executives who should be free from political embarrassments, have undivided authority, and be responsible only to the appointing power.

Regent Walter E. Myers typified the character of leadership developed under this system, which, as predicted by Walter Sears, had appealed to successful men of large affairs, who were willing to give their time and talents to the work of the Fraternity when they realized that there existed a medium for obtaining results commensurate with their labors. Myers began his career of service under the old order of administration, demonstrating his ability and his devotion to Sigma Nu in important committee assignments at several Grand Chapters. Having assisted in the formulation of the Sears plan, as it became known, and having been a member of the High Council during the inaugural years of centralized administration, Myers was amply prepared to direct the important work scheduled for his administration—the launching of the campaign for a

Permanent Endowment Fund, authorized by the Nineteenth Grand Chapter.

Preliminary to the inauguration of this vital undertaking, the biennial Inspectors' Conference was held at the General Offices in Indianapolis, November 12-13, 1920, at which meeting the Inspectors were familiarized with the plans for their participation in the "P. E. F." campaign, as the movement became known. The details of the organized effort were worked out by a committee composed of Vice Regent George A. Smith, the father of the plan, John A. Stevenson, Gamma Lambda, Wisconsin, and Arthur O. Dillenbeck, Gamma Psi, Syracuse. The need, the aim and the possibilities of the Permanent Endowment Fund were set forth by the committee in a ten-page announcement published in *The Delta*, December, 1920. Early in the year 1921, the entire membership of the Fraternity was circularized, and the campaign was launched officially. Two methods of contribution were provided. Payment of fifty dollars entitled a member to a paid-up life subscription to *The Delta*. An annual contributing subscription of five dollars included payment of *Delta* renewals. An engraved certificate was designed to be sent to each life contributor. The first life subscription recorded was received from John C. Scott, Past Editor of *The Delta*, on January 1, 1921.



WALTER E. MYERS, BETA IOTA
GRAND COUNSELOR, 1915-19
REGENT, 1919-21
As a High Counselor, this loyal alumnus of the Mount Union Chapter rendered great service in the vital movements during his official career.

On March 4, 1921, the High Council met at the General Offices to select a successor to General Secretary Dunlavy, whose change of residence had terminated an arrangement whereby he had been able to give part of his time to the administrative work of the Fraternity, while conducting a ministerial charge near Indianapolis. Up to this time, the Assistant General Secretary had been the only official conforming with the provision of the Sears plan that promised full-time service from general executives, who should become resident at the seat of the General Offices. Following Dunlavy's resignation, the High Council determined to bring this promise to complete fulfillment. The requirements demanded more than executive ability, the primary qualification for such an official being a combination of loyalty, enthusiasm and ambition for one's fraternity which creates initiative and which impels service, regardless of personal sacrifice. Howard and Robinson, Harrington and Woods, exemplified this



This is to Certify that

John Calderhead Scott

is a Life Contributor to the

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND

of

Sigma Nu Fraternity

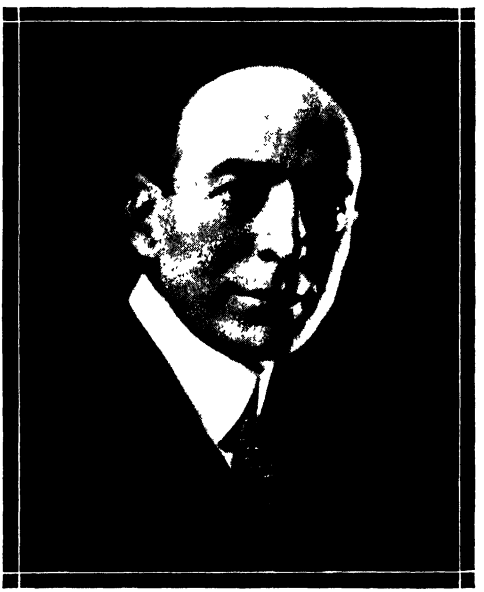
Ernest Lee Williams
General Secretary

Regent

The First Life Membership Certificate, Permanent Endowment Fund.

characteristic of a fraternity executive, which is essential if the spiritual nature of the organization is to be maintained as fundamental.

At its meeting on March 4, 1921, the High Council ended the five-year quest for a General Secretary who would become resident at the seat of the General Offices and devote his entire time to the work, Grand Counselor Ernest Lee Williams agreeing to accept the appointment. He assumed the responsibilities of the office on April 1, 1921. Oscar Palmour, Kappa, Inspector of the Second Division, whose long and faithful service in that office had won him the title of Dean of Inspectors, was named Grand Counselor to succeed Williams. Harry A. Rider was made Editor of *The Delta*, succeeding Dunlavy, whose loyal and efficient assistant Rider had been for four years. Rider retained the office of Assistant General Secretary, in which capacity he had maintained uninterrupted operation of General Office detail work when previously a change had occurred in the office of General Secretary.



ERNEST LEE WILLIAMS, GAMMA KAPPA
GRAND COUNSELOR, 1919-21
Charter member of the University of Colorado Chapter, Sigma Nu's first full-time General Secretary, appointed in 1921.

During the nineteen years that Ernest Lee Williams had been a member of Sigma Nu, he had attained a perspective of fraternity life and had experienced a variety of fraternity service unique and widely compassed. As a charter member of Gamma Kappa at the University of Colorado, he had acquired that intensity of regard for the Fraternity so marked among chapter pioneers, the more among those who learned the tenets from the lips of the loyal and lovable C. W. Jones, who initiated Williams. Gamma Kappa's charter members were scholastic leaders, and Williams was one of several who became connected with the faculty, an experience which gave him a broader viewpoint of college affairs. For many years Williams indulged a fondness for fraternity work in the ranks of the Denver Alumni Chapter, in which city he became prominent in the practice of law. He was made Division Inspector in 1916. His intimate service in behalf of his Chapters gave evidence of deep interest in the program of chapter supervision anticipated under the centralized system. His enthusiastic work in helping establish Epsilon Delta at the University of Wyoming was convincing of his peculiar fitness for fraternity work.

During the college year 1920-21, while he was Grand Counselor, Williams was despatched on a special mission to investigate conditions at the University of Nevada, where Delta Xi had fallen victim to state-wide economic depression. Williams did more than investigate the situation. He remained with the Chapter until its courage was restored, and left its members inspired by a demonstration of the helping hand that saved the life of the Chapter. This conspicuous service so impressed the other members of the High Council with the exceptional capabilities and earnestness of their colleague that they urged him to accept the office of General Secretary. The experience at Nevada gave Williams such a conception of the possibilities of the service that he agreed to abandon the calling of a score of years, and to devote himself entirely to the work of the Fraternity.

This development and the launching of the endowment fund campaign were the signal achievements marking the administration of Regent Myers. It was with justifiable pride that Myers announced the appointment of a full-time General Secretary, meeting the promise of the reorganization plan which he had helped to formulate and inaugurate. Myers was the last of three successive Regents who, as associates on the High Council elected at the Seventeenth Grand Chapter in 1915, had been voted more power and greater responsibility than previously had been given to officials of any college fraternity. The moral elements involved in their responsibilities were more serious than were the specific obligations with which the members of that High Council were charged. They were forced to overcome the power of custom and to counteract the influence of skepticism and prejudice against new methods of administration. They were responsible for the establishment of precedents which became the unwritten law of procedure under the centralized system. Having shared the responsibility of inaugurating this system, it was gratifying to Myers to be able to report in his Regent's message to the Twentieth Grand Chapter the culminating development of the reorganization plan.

The Twentieth Grand Chapter met at the Hotel Adelphia in Philadelphia, December 29-31, 1921. Regent Myers presided. Three hundred and ninety-six members were registered. The most honored guest present was Past Regent I. P. Robinson, founder of Lambda Chapter at Washington and Lee University, whose work in reviving the Fraternity caused Founder Hopkins to refer to him as Sigma Nu's Second Inspirationist. This was the first Grand Chapter that Robinson had attended since the pioneer convention in 1884, which meeting resulted from his planning and his assiduous efforts. Past Vice Regent Clarence Wainwright Murphey, also a charter member of Lambda, and Robinson's roommate at Washington and Lee, was another distinguished visitor at this Grand Chapter, the seventh he had attended. Other Past Grand Officers present were Past Regents George M. Cook, Albert H. Wilson and Borden Burr; Past Vice Regent William L. Kemp; and Past Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods. Greenleaf H. Chasmar, Pi, Lehigh, Robert E. Safford, Beta Nu, Ohio State, and Horace E. Sibson, Gamma Theta, Cornell, who had been active in the early development of Collegiate and Alumni Chapters in the East, were among those who welcomed this first Grand Chapter to be held in that section.

Consideration of the progress made in the Permanent Endowment Fund campaign, and the formulation of plans for increased activity in obtaining life subscribers, constituted the principal business during the sessions of the Twentieth Grand Chapter. It was prescribed that loans from the fund could be made by the High Council after approval by the General Secretary for the following purposes only:

First: For the erection, purchase, rebuilding, refinancing or completing of chapter houses.



LAMBDA CHAPTER NOTABLES

Past Regent Borden Burr, Theta-Lambda; Past Regent Isaac Poitevint Robinson, Lambda's founder, "Father of the First Convention"; Past Vice Regent Clarence W. Murphey, Lambda.

Second: For the assistance of worthy members of the Fraternity in the completion of their education.

Third: For the assistance of worthy graduate members of the Fraternity, desirous of securing advanced degrees, who, in consideration therefor, shall direct and supervise the scholarship standing of the Chapter and of the individual members and pledges thereof.

Interest collected from Permanent Endowment Fund loans was designated to be used for the following purposes only:

First: For the publication of *The Delta* and its delivery for life to all life contributors to the fund who have paid fifty dollars in full, or who are paying five dollars on the annual subscription plan.

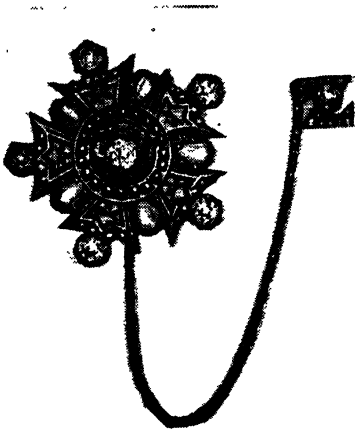
Second: For the inspection, direction and supervision of all Chapters, and for other internal development of the Fraternity.

The High Council was authorized to provide for devises, bequests or other methods of increasing the Permanent Endowment Fund. The Law was amended prescribing payment of a P. E. F. subscription as a part of the initiation fee, thus making each new initiate a life subscriber to *The Delta*.

At the Twentieth Grand Chapter was inaugurated the ceremony of pinning the Regent's jewel upon the incoming executive head of the Fraternity. This token of the highest office in Sigma Nu, a large badge set with diamonds, had been purchased by Past Grand Recorder Woods soon after his initiation into the Fraternity, and several times had been reset to warrant Woods' claim that it was the most costly fraternity badge in existence. The badge had been worn by Woods at many Grand Chapters, and was regarded as a precious relic. In order to preserve and appropriately to consecrate the famous emblem, it was purchased by contributions from the Chapters through the instrumentality of

Inspector John M. Roberts, and was designated to be worn as the Regent's Jewel. As such, it was first worn by George A. Smith, who was made Regent at the Twentieth Grand Chapter, and upon whom Past Grand Recorder Woods pinned the emblem, inaugurating the custom.

Inspector John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi, was elected Vice Regent at the Twentieth Grand Chapter. Grand Treasurer Pegues and Grand Counselor Palmour were re-elected. John C. Scott, Beta Zeta, Purdue, Past Editor of *The Delta*, was made Grand Historian. Harry C. Fraser, Delta Gamma, Columbia, was chosen Grand Chaplain.



THE REGENT'S JEWEL
The famous Woods Badge with Zeta guard, as worn by Past Grand Recorder C. E. Woods. The Badge was consecrated as the Regent's Jewel at the Twentieth Grand Chapter, in 1921.

During the interim between the Nineteenth and Twentieth Grand Chapters, changes in the corps of Inspectors resulted in the following appointments in the Divisions indicated: I, Clarence A. Short, Delta Kappa; II, William L. Kemp, Mu; IV, James E. Moffat, Beta Eta; XI, Orville M. Barnett, Rho; XIII, John D. Cofer, Upsilon; XIV, Charles R. Hays, Chi-Beta Mu; XVI, Charles E. Arney, Gamma Chi; XVIII, Rayford K. Adams, Psi.

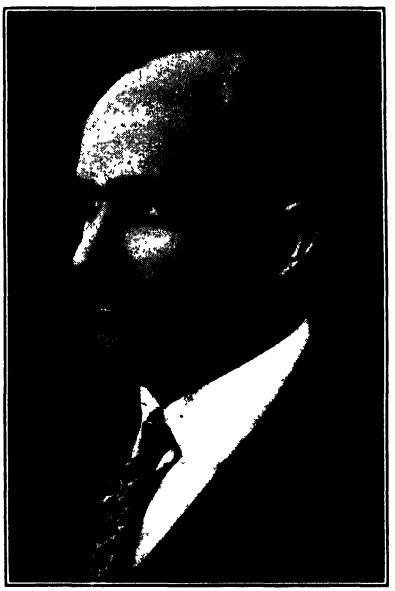
The Twentieth Grand Chapter decreed by statute that the commissions of all Division Inspectors should terminate at the close of each Grand Chapter, permitting changes where for any reason reappointments were not recommended. Following the Twentieth Grand Chapter, new Inspectors named were: IV, Ellis B. Hall, Gamma Mu; V, Trafford B. Tallmadge, Beta Upsilon; IX, Alfred C. Evens, Beta Beta; X, Robert J. Bannister, Beta Mu; XII, Malcolm C. Sewell, Beta Kappa; XVII, Walter J. Matherly, Beta Xi. Changes during the ensuing two-year period resulted in the following appointments: I, Ora M. Baldinger, Alpha; II, Bond Almand, Xi; III, Walter M. Noel, Sigma; V, Daniel A. Moran, Beta Zeta; IX, A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta, and Harold F. French, Beta Sigma; X, Howard O. Dykman, Gamma Tau; XVI, Leonard O. Aldrich, Gamma Nu, and Oliver B. Huston, Gamma Zeta. Raymond W. Blacklock, Gamma Psi, was appointed Special Inspector for Florida, and John M. McBryde, Delta, was made Special Inspector for Louisiana.

The Permanent Endowment Fund Campaign was brought to its maximum intensity during the two-year term of Regent George A. Smith. Although encouraging progress previously had been made, the principal effort of the original endowment fund committee, of which Smith was chairman, had been devoted to publicity. The committee appointed by Regent Smith to carry on the campaign which he had inaugurated was composed of Vice Regent John

M. Roberts, chairman; John W. Esterline, Beta Zeta, Purdue; Inspector Ellis B. Hall, and John B. Mallers, Gamma Mu, Illinois. Esterline had come into prominence as a P. E. F. supporter by the gift of a five hundred dollar prize to the Chapter in his Division which secured the largest percentage of its alumni as life subscribers. All the members of this committee were equipped with



JOHN C. SCOTT, BETA ZETA
Past Editor of *The Delta*, elected Grand Historian at the Twentieth Grand Chapter, in 1921.

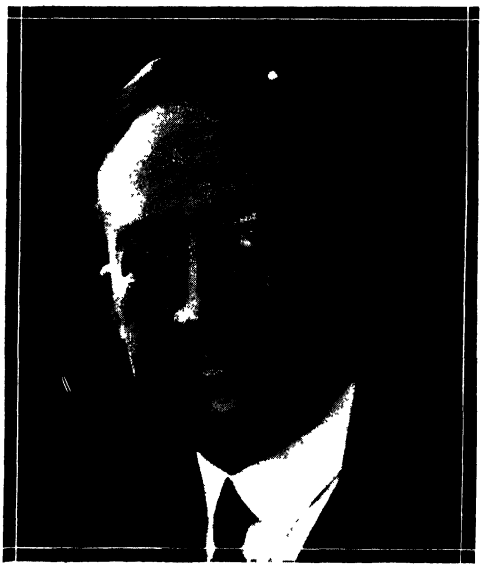


HARRY C. FRASER, DELTA GAMMA
Alumnus of the Chapter at Columbia University, elected to the office of Grand Chaplain in 1921.

peculiar organizing ability, and under their direction the Permanent Endowment Fund grew to magnificent proportions. The status of the fund reported at the Twentieth Grand Chapter in 1921 showed a total of nine hundred and eighty-nine life subscriptions, and fifty-eight annual subscribers, representing a total pledge of $49,624. During the two years of Regent Smith's administration, the total amount pledged and paid in was increased to $201,482. At the end of six years, this total had grown to $440,243, of which $134,218 had been paid. A total of 8,838 life subscribers had been enrolled.

The fundamental virtue of Sigma Nu's endowment fund plan is its provision for paid-up life subscriptions to *The Delta*. The fact that each initiate becomes a contributor to the fund, receiving *The Delta* for life, is of incalculable consequence in the conservation of alumni interest. Before the endowment fund was inaugurated approximately twenty-three per cent of the membership received *The Delta* on the yearly subscription basis, with collegiate members included in the calculation. Six years after the endowment fund plan

had been put into operation forty-four per cent of the Fraternity's twenty-two thousand members were life subscribers to *The Delta*. The possibilities of the fund in providing adequate supervision of Collegiate Chapters and in aiding worthy members needing financial assistance in attainment of scholastic ambitions are beyond comprehension. For whatever results are achieved through the employment of this fund everlasting credit should be given those who participated in its inauguration. But to George A. Smith goes the glory of being the far-seeing founder of the movement; its unwavering sponsor when skepticism prevailed and discouragements were encountered; the hard-working enthusiast whose abounding energies were not relaxed until the amount of pledges, determined as the goal of the original campaign, had been more than doubled.



GEORGE A. SMITH, BETA ZETA
VICE REGENT, 1917-21
REGENT, 1921-23
Father of the Permanent Endowment Fund movement, an alumnus of the Purdue Chapter.

The Twenty-first Grand Chapter, over which Regent Smith presided, met at the Tutwiler Hotel, in Birmingham, Alabama, December 28-31, 1923. It was featured by the presence of four members who had attended the convention at Birmingham in 1887, the first to be called a Grand Chapter. This quartet of venerables was composed of Past Regent William Hampton Wade, of Alpha; Benjamin F. Wyman, charter member of Theta, University of Alabama; Hon. Henry D. Clayton, Theta, ex-congressman and a Federal Judge; and Morris Loveman, Theta, who attended three of the first five conventions. Three hundred and thirty delegates and visitors were registered at this second Birmingham Grand Chapter. Past Grand Officers present were Past Regents William Hampton Wade, Albert H. Wilson and Borden Burr; Past Vice Regent William L. Kemp; Past Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods; and Past Grand Chaplain John R. Sampey.

The business sessions of the Twenty-first Grand Chapter were concerned principally in consideration of matters bearing directly upon the internal welfare of the Chapters. No unusual legislative action was taken. Elaborate social functions, replete with the grace and warmth of Southern hospitality, marked this biennial meeting. A memorial service held on the intervening Sunday at the First Presbyterian Church, to which more than three hundred members of Sigma Nu marched in a body, was an impressive spiritual inno-

vation. The service was in charge of Grand Chaplain Harry C. Fraser. An appropriate address was delivered by Past Grand Chaplain John R. Sampey, distinguished theologian.

Vice Regent John M. Roberts was made Regent at the Twenty-first Grand Chapter. Grand Counselor Oscar Palmour was elected Vice Regent. Inspector Orville M. Barnett, Rho, Missouri, was chosen Grand Counselor. Grand Treasurer Pegues, Grand Historian Scott and Grand Chaplain Fraser were re-elected. New Division Inspectors named during the administration of Regent Roberts were: I, Frank L. Yates, Gamma Pi-Delta Pi; V, Roy L. Bovard, Delta Delta;



A NOTABLE GRAND CHAPTER REUNION
Four members of Sigma Nu who attended the Third Convention at Birmingham, in 1887, reunited at the Twenty-first Grand Chapter, in 1923. Left to right—Benjamin Wyman, Theta; Judge Henry D. Clayton, Theta; Past Regent William H. Wade, Alpha; Morris Loveman, Theta.

VI, Charles R. Mason, Delta Delta; IX, Frank J. Durham, Gamma Theta; XI, Henry H. Armsby, Delta Delta, and Edgar Shook, Rho; XIII, John H. Tucker, Phi, Special Inspector for Louisiana; XIV, George H. Swerer, Gamma Eta-Gamma Kappa; XVI, Dean H. Walker, Gamma Zeta; XVIII, Vernon M. Williams, Gamma Tau, and Addison Hibbard, Gamma Lambda; XIX, Clyde E. Stevens, Delta Psi.

During the early years of Sigma Nu's second half-century of history, extension of Chapters was continued consistent with the policy which had given the Fraternity its well-balanced national development. Of the ten Chapters chartered during the six-year period, 1920-1926, two were established in New England States, two in the Middle West, two in the Rocky Mountain region, one in the Southwest, and three in the South. In connection with the chronicles of these Chapter foundings, the concluding record of charters granted during the range of this history, it is due and proper here to epitomize the unique service of Past Regent Albert H. Wilson, to whom more Sigma Nu Chapters owe existence than to any other member of the Fraternity. With the courage

and vision of Bennett, with the faith and zeal of Harrington, with the persistence and devotion of Robinson, "Bert" Wilson was largely responsible for bringing to complete realization the plans of these early leaders for a thoroughly representative national organization.

While Wilson's greatest contribution in this respect was his remarkable work of extension in the East, the beneficence of his fraternal impulses were radiated in every direction, and he became widely recognized as one of the foremost builders of Sigma Nu. His work and his influence were eulogized in the following tribute written by Past Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods, himself acclaimed by Founder Hopkins as Sigma Nu's greatest benefactor:

"Wilson is the one man who constantly, during the thirty years since his initiation, has maintained a virile, enthusiastic, universal Sigma Nu consciousness, non-sectional, all-embracing, effective to a degree that makes his record of service incomparable in many respects. He has been Sigma Nu's most prodigious worker. His inspirational contacts with collegiate members have excelled in number and in intimacy those of any man in the Fraternity. His career in Sigma Nu has been a practical exemplification of the ideals of fraternity, his brotherly ministrations touching many hearts, uplifting the spirit of many young men, filling them with zeal and devotion for Sigma Nu, to the end that they have had more pride and have been made more responsive in their fraternity relationships."

The record of Past Regent Wilson is unique in that, after retiring from the highest office in the Fraternity, he resumed the role of Division Inspector, his aggregate years of service in this connection establishing a record. Wilson returned to the rank of Inspector in 1920. Every Chapter whose founding is recorded in these concluding chronicles experienced the brotherly touch of "Bert" Wilson's helping hand in their beginnings.

In 1920, a Chapter was established at Wesleyan University, which institution was founded at Middletown, Connecticut, in 1831. Phi Nu Theta, a local, the pioneer Greek-letter fraternity at "Old Wesleyan", has had continuous existence there since 1837. Psi Upsilon entered in 1843; Chi Psi, 1844; Delta Upsilon, 1850, becoming defunct in 1852, but later being revived; Alpha Delta Phi, 1856; Theta Delta Chi, 1857, ceasing existence in 1863; Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1867; Beta Theta Pi, 1890; Delta Tau Delta, 1902; Alpha Chi Rho, 1911. The Alpha Sigma Delta local, chartered by Sigma Nu, was organized in 1916. The next year, through the influence of Moses L. Crossley, Delta Lambda, Brown, the group decided to petition Sigma Nu. The Providence Alumni Chapter was active in sponsoring the Wesleyan petition, and furnished the team which conducted the initiation of thirty-three collegiate and alumni members of the Alpha Sigma Delta local. The installation of the Chapter, designated Epsilon Gamma, was held at the famous old Steuck's Tavern, in Middletown, May 22, 1920. Inspector Raymond H. Segur, Delta Chi, Trinity, officiated.

Delta Chapter, founded at the University of South Carolina in 1886, and which in 1897 had yielded to an antifraternity decree, was revived August 31,

1920. The Nineteenth Grand Chapter gave authority to the High Council to restore as well as to withdraw charters, and this was the first action under that provision. During the college year 1919-20, James F. Van Meter, Gamma Nu, Michigan, matriculated at the University of South Carolina. Upon request of Past Regent A. H. Wilson, he made an investigation which disclosed the fact that Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Kappa Alpha (S) were operating *sub rosa*, although generally known to be in existence. It was discovered also that the action taken by the legislature, which resulted in a ban against fraternities in state institutions, was in the form of a recommendation instead of a law, and that no pledge prohibiting membership in fraternities was required of students.

Influenced by indication of a tolerant faculty attitude, Wilson and Van Meter determined to try to revive Delta Chapter. John C. Roper, pledged Sigma Nu by Xi Chapter at Emory, was matriculated at the University that year, and joined Van Meter in preliminary activities. They won the Sigma Delta Nu local to their cause, and after receiving approval by Division Chapters and the two North Carolina Chapters, which were promised benefit by this neighboring prospect, the group was given authority by the High Council to revive Delta Chapter. The revival ceremonies were held at the Jefferson Hotel in Columbia, August 31, 1920. Van Meter and Inspector Palmour were prevented from being present as they had planned, and Wilson alone was there to officiate. Wilson instructed Roper in the rites, then they initiated one of the members of the local, and the three composed a team which conducted the initiation of seven other members of Sigma Delta Nu. Van Meter returned at the opening of the University, and was elected Commander of the Chapter. The Chapter came out openly in conformance with the policy of Sigma Nu, and made a propitious entry upon the campus, where once thirteen representative national fraternities had flourished. Their efforts were in vain, however, for the next year the antifraternity element became aroused, and a crusade was launched against fraternities, resulting in the renewal of the ban against them. Unwilling to compromise the law prohibiting *sub rosa* Chapters, the High Council withdrew the charter.

Epsilon Delta Chapter was installed at the University of Wyoming, October 29, 1920, by Inspector Charles R. Hays, Chi-Beta Mu. The University of Wyoming, founded at Laramie in 1887, had been entered by Alpha Tau Omega in 1913 and by Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1917. The Gamma Theta Chi local, chartered by Sigma Nu, was formed in 1916. The decision to petition Sigma Nu was influenced by George E. Parisoe, Gamma Beta, Northwestern. Inspector Ernest L. Williams led the petitioning campaign, supported by the Denver Alumni Chapter. Williams had become Grand Counselor of the Fraternity at the time Epsilon Delta was installed, and with Past Regent Krippner and Grand Chaplain Spencer assisted Inspector Hays in the initiation of the twenty-seven charter members of the Wyoming Chapter.

The Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, established at Stillwater in 1891, was entered by Sigma Nu in the fall of 1920. For many years,

Greek-letter fraternities were prohibited at this institution, resulting in the organization of local clubs. The Oklahoma Club, first to organize, became a Chapter of Beta Theta Pi. The second organization of the kind, the Smokers' Club, was chartered by Sigma Chi. These fraternities followed Sigma Nu in the order of establishment. Lambda Chi Alpha was first, entering in 1918. Sigma Phi Epsilon and Kappa Sigma entered in 1920. Epsilon Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Nu was installed November 13, 1920. The Phi Kappa Delta local, which was chartered, was organized in 1914 as the Marthon Club. Friendships among members of the local and members of Delta Epsilon Chapter, of the University of Oklahoma, inspired the desire to petition Sigma Nu. Errett R. Newby, charter member and leader in the founding of Delta Epsilon, guided this second Oklahoma petition to success, and became recognized as the founder of Epsilon Epsilon. He was also officially in charge of the installation ceremonies. Members of the Chapters in Kansas and Oklahoma assisted in the initiation of thirty-four charter members of Epsilon Epsilon.

Epsilon Zeta Chapter was installed November 27, 1920, at the University of Florida, located at Gainesville, where in 1905 were combined several state institutions, the oldest of which, established in 1857, giving the University claim to that date of founding. Sigma Nu was preceded there by Alpha Tau Omega and Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1884; Kappa Alpha (S) and Pi Kappa Alpha in 1904; and Theta Chi in 1916. In 1915, Joseph W. Dalton, Gamma Alpha, Georgia "Tech", matriculated at the University of Florida, and started the movement for a Chapter of Sigma Nu, which culminated five years later. He was joined in 1919 by George W. Milam, Sigma, Vanderbilt, and George C. Alderman, Xi, Emory. These three were assisted in the formation of the Nu Sigma local by Raymond W. Blacklock, Gamma Psi, Syracuse, a member of the faculty, to whom was given most credit for the success of the petition. Inspector Oscar Palmour was in charge of the installation of Epsilon Zeta Chapter. Past Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods was present, and formally delivered the charter. Members of Delta Mu, Stetson, assisted in the initiation of sixteen charter members. Four affiliates were included in the charter roll of Epsilon Zeta.

Beta Omicron Chapter was revived at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, April 10, 1921. Past Regent A. H. Wilson launched the movement for the return of Sigma Nu to this mountain shrine, where, in 1889, the original Beta Omicron had been established. Inspector Manly R. Joiner was principally responsible for the culmination of this movement, winning authority from the High Council for the restoration of Beta Omicron. The charter was granted to the Tau Gamma Phi local, organized in 1920. Thirteen members of the local were initiated during installation ceremonies which were in charge of Inspector Joiner.

Sigma Nu entered the University of Tennessee, June 6, 1921, establishing Epsilon Eta Chapter. The University of Tennessee was opened at Knoxville in 1807. Alpha Tau Omega had established a Chapter there in 1872; Pi Kappa Alpha, 1874; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1879; Kappa Sigma, 1880; Kappa Alpha (S), 1883; Phi Gamma Delta, 1890; Sigma Phi Epsilon, 1913; and Sigma Chi,

1917. Sigma Nu chartered the Phi Beta Sigma local, which had been organized in the spring of 1919 to petition another fraternity. In the fall of that year the local pledged George Forman, son of Past Grand Treasurer Forman, founder of Zeta Chapter, Central University, Richmond, Kentucky. Through this connection, the group was led to petition Sigma Nu, and thus Epsilon Eta Chapter was added to the direct line of descendants of old Lambda Chapter. Inspector Joiner installed Epsilon Eta Chapter. He was assisted by General Secretary Williams and Inspector W. L. Kemp in the initiation of twenty-seven members of the Phi Beta Sigma local.

Epsilon Theta Chapter was installed February 25, 1922, at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "M. I. T.", as popularly known, dates its founding in 1861, and originally was located on Copley Square in Boston. In 1915, the institution was moved to a site located on the Charles River in Cambridge. General fraternities, national in extent, which were operating when Sigma Nu entered, were Chi Phi, established there in 1873; Sigma Chi, 1882; Alpha Tau Omega and Theta Xi, 1885; Phi Gamma Delta, Delta Psi and Delta Tau Delta, 1889; Theta Delta Chi and Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1890; Delta Upsilon, 1891; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1892; Phi Sigma Kappa and Theta Chi, 1902; Phi Kappa Sigma. 1903. Beta Theta Pi and Lambda Chi Alpha. 1912; Kappa Sigma, 1914; Phi Beta Delta, 1920; Phi Mu Delta, 1922. Sigma Nu entered through an organization of alumni known as the Sigma Nu Club. Initial steps leading up to the formation of the Sigma Nu Club were taken during the year 1920 by Robert M. Littlefield, Delta Nu, Maine, and William W. Quarles, Beta Theta, Alabama Polytechnic, the latter becoming first president of the organization. The Boston Alumni Chapter was active sponsor for the petition, which was signed by members from sixteen Chapters of Sigma Nu, who were attending "M. I. T." The charter was granted by the Twentieth Grand Chapter. Inspector Raymond H. Segur was officially in charge at the installation of Epsilon Theta. Charter member affiliates conducted the initiation of eight pledges, who participated in the Chapter's inauguration.

The Twentieth Grand Chapter also granted a charter to the Phi Tau Beta local at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. At this historic institution, where the progenitor of the Greek-letter college fraternity system was founded in 1776, Theta Delta Chi established a Chapter in 1853; Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1857, becoming inactive in 1861; Pi Kappa Alpha. 1871; Beta Theta Pi, 1876, surviving but one year; Kappa Alpha (S) and Kappa Sigma, 1890; Sigma Phi Epsilon, 1904. The Phi Tau Beta local was organized in 1917. Joseph R. Geiger, Delta Mu, Stetson, professor of philosophy at William and Mary College, was responsible for the decision of the group to petition Sigma Nu. Past Regent A. H. Wilson and Alexander L. Bivins, Beta. Virginia, were leaders in the movement to secure favorable action upon the petition. Four members of the Phi Tau Beta local had been initiated into Delta Gamma Chapter at Columbia University prior to their enrollment as charter members of Epsilon Iota Chapter at William and Mary College. Members of Delta Pi Chapter, George Washington University, conducted the initiation of twenty collegiate members of the local and seven of its alumni at the installation

ceremonies, February 17, 1922. Inspector Clarence A. Short installed Epsilon Iota Chapter, Sigma Nu's third Chapter in the State of its birthplace.

Epsilon Kappa Chapter was installed at the University of North Dakota, June 13, 1923. At this institution, founded at Grand Forks in 1884, Sigma Chi established a Chapter in 1909; Phi Delta Theta, 1913; Beta Theta Pi and Alpha Tau Omega, 1922; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1923. The Synergoi fraternity, the name meaning co-workers, antedated the establishment of all but one of these nationals, having been organized in 1910. John J. Kelly, Gamma Tau, Minnesota, converted the local in its thirteenth year to national aspirations, with Sigma Nu its objective. Kelly devoted weeks of intensive effort in securing an almost unanimous vote in favor of the North Dakota petition. He presided as Eminent Commander of the team composed of members of the Minnesota Chapter, which initiated thirty-four collegiate members of Synergoi and twenty-four alumni during installation ceremonies. The general fraternity was represented at the installation by Regent Smith, Vice Regent Roberts and General Secretary Williams.

The Twenty-first Grand Chapter granted a charter to Theta Sigma, a local at the University of Utah, which from the date of its organization in 1916 had for its purpose the acquirement of a charter from Sigma Nu. At the University of Utah, founded at Salt Lake City in 1850, Sigma Chi established a Chapter in 1908; Pi Kappa Alpha, 1912; Beta Theta Pi, 1913; Phi Delta Theta, 1915; Sigma Pi, 1920. The Theta Sigma local formed contact with Sigma Nu through the Salt Lake City Alumni Chapter. Arthur P. Stone, Beta Upsilon, Rose Polytechnic, was the first member of Sigma Nu to become associated with Theta Sigma in the culminating movement to secure a charter. As president of the Salt Lake City Alumni Chapter, Stone led the Sigma Nus of that city in sponsoring the petitioners. Inspector Charles R. Hays rendered valuable assistance in behalf of the Utah petition, and was in charge of the installation of Epsilon Lambda Chapter, held March 7, 1924. Regent Roberts and General Secretary Williams were present, and with members of the Salt Lake City Alumni Chapter assisted in the initiation of thirty-four collegiate members and twenty-three alumni of the Theta Sigma local.

The installation of Epsilon Mu Chapter at Butler University was held during a three-day assembly of Sigma Nus in Indianapolis, May 6-8, 1926, in conjunction with which occasion were held the annual Hoosier Sigma Nu Rally, Fourth Division convention and a meeting of the High Council. Butler University, established as Northwestern Christian University at Indianapolis in 1855, had been entered by Phi Delta Theta in 1859; Sigma Chi in 1865; Delta Tau Delta in 1875; Beta Theta Pi in 1878, becoming inactive in 1881; Kappa Sigma in 1891, surviving but two years; Lambda Chi Alpha in 1916. The acquirement of Fairview Park, a magnificent new site near Indianapolis, and funds for new buildings and increased endowment to maintain enlarged facilities, inspired the formation of several locals anticipating expansion of Butler's fraternity colony. Delta Phi Sigma was organized to petition Sigma Nu. The local was formed in 1923 by Myron L. Myers, Delta Pi, George Washington University, then attending Butler, and Charles H. Spurgeon, Epsilon Beta, an alumnus of Drury

College, then residing near the old University campus. A year later, members of the Indianapolis Alumni Chapter took over active sponsorship of the local, and after two years of supervision led the petitioners to the consummation of their charter quest. Officers of Beta Beta, DePauw, and a team composed of alumni representing the four Chapters in the State of Indiana, conferred the degrees upon twenty-four collegiate members of Delta Phi Sigma and twelve of its alumni. Inspector Ellis B. Hall, Gamma Mu, Illinois, was in charge of the installation of Epsilon Mu Chapter.

This group of ten new Chapters, which was added to the roll during seven years of Sigma Nu's sixth decade, brought the total number of active collegiate Chapters to ninety-one, with all states but South Carolina, Mississippi, South Dakota and New Mexico embraced in the list. Establishment of new Chapters had ceased to be the vital factor in the Fraternity's development that it was during the greater part of Sigma Nu's first half-century of history, material progress and internal improvement having superseded extension as the gage of progress. In a period of ten years, the number of chapter houses owned had increased from twenty-seven to seventy-three, a gain of forty-six houses in a decade. Funds controlled by the Fraternity and loaned to chapter house companies had grown from an approximate total of $8,000 to more than $107,000 during that ten years. The estimated value of Sigma Nu's chapter houses had increased from $410,000 to $2,600,000. The surplus in the Fraternity's general fund had grown from $16,000 to more than $50,000. The total assets of the general organization were shown by audit to be $210,478. These figures privileged Sigma Nu to regard its financial status unsurpassed in the college Greek-letter fraternity world.

In the fulfillment of its obligations and opportunities, this material prosperity was considered by the Fraternity only as means to the attainment of its real purpose. Internal improvement was the ultimate objective in the acquirement of adequate finances, and in the building of chapter houses. Consistent with this aim, the Seventeenth Grand Chapter, in 1915, adopted the suggestion of Walter Sears that a standing committee on scholarship be authorized to investigate scholastic problems of the Chapters, and to devise methods for assisting collegiate members to a high standard of intellectual attainment. This organized effort was inaugurated with the opening of the General Offices, and became an important part of the work of the General Secretary, upon which official devolved most of the responsibility for obtaining results. Under the direction of Ernest Lee Williams, Sigma Nu took an advanced position among college fraternities in its stand upon scholarship requirements for its Chapters.

At a meeting in June, 1924, the High Council adopted a resolution, prepared by General Secretary Williams, which provided charter suspension as a penalty for failure of any Chapter to maintain an average scholastic standing, each term or semester, at least equal to the requirements for graduation in percentages or points or letters; and a penalty of suspension of a member or release of a pledge, after a specified time, for failure to make such scholastic grades, each term or semester, so that the average thereof would equal the requirements for graduation. The resolution did not specify that a member should take a certain

number of hours, but required an average grade necessary for graduation in the hours taken. This rule became effective in the fall of 1924.

This radical action was recommended by General Secretary Williams after more than three years of intimate observation and patient effort had convinced him of the futility of depending alone upon chapter house rules and upon appeals to pride to produce ambition, to create determination and to compel



THE GALLAHER SCHOLARSHIP CUP
Chapter scholarship trophy presented at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter, in 1925, by Edward B. Gallaher, Gamma Delta.

application among those individuals who show lack of appreciation of the real purpose of attendance at colleges and universities. Faculties and fraternity officials generally commended Sigma Nu for its courageous action, although some doubt was expressed as to the tenability of its stand. This was conceded to be a question for the Chapters to decide, since in Sigma Nu collegiate representatives have the power in Grand Chapter to abrogate such action by a preponderant majority of votes. The Twenty-second Grand Chapter not only

approved this scholarship resolution, but added to its force by adopting stringent regulations defining the penalties to be imposed.

An appropriate correlative to this action taken at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter was the presentation of the Gallaher Cup, a sterling silver trophy awarded each collegiate year to the Chapter attaining the highest relative and weighted scholarship record. The donor, Edward B. Gallaher, Gamma Delta, Stevens, who personally announced the gift, also inaugurated the custom of presenting a key to each member of the winning Chapter meeting the Fraternity's scholarship requirements. The name of the Chapter winning the trophy each year is inscribed upon the Gallaher Cup.

SCHOLARSHIP CUP

SIGMA NU FRATERNITY

Presented by
Brother Edward Beach Gallaher,
Gamma Delta
In 1926

To be presented each collegiate year to the Chapter having attained the highest relative and weighted Scholarship Record

"Learning by study must be won;
'Twas ne'er entailed from sire to son."



Inscription on the Gallaher Cup, Chapter scholarship trophy, and picture of the donor, taken on the day of presentation at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter.

The unequivocal stand taken by Sigma Nu in regard to scholastic requirements was the consummate development in the program of Chapter supervision, which had been projected at the Seventeenth Grand Chapter in 1915. In a period of ten years, there had been built up an administrative agency responsive to the practical needs of the Collegiate Chapters, a system of fraternal service consistent with objects set forth in the preamble to the Constitution:

"To mutually protect, assist, advance and encourage each other; to have plans for guidance and unity in action."

Manifestly, these fundamental purposes had survived and had become essential obligations in the conduct of the Fraternity. But a primary motive anteceded these aims in the declaration of fundamental objects:

"To bind together all of our members by ties of true and lasting friendship."

This was the incentive that had inspired the Founders and their associates, when beside the Rock of Sigma Nu they plighted allegiance to the Legion of Honor.

As the history of the Fraternity began with the consecration of friendships, so, happily, the concluding chronicle in this "Story of Sigma Nu" betokens the preservation of the same incentive as the Fraternity's most cherished achievement—the perpetuation of the Founders' System.

CHAPTER XXX

The Founders' System

THE characteristic of the college Greek-letter fraternity that more than other peculiarities has distinguished it as unique is the fervency and lastingness of its friendships. The fraternity that clings to that primal attribute as its basic aim, while meeting the demands of collegiate relationship and while maintaining material sufficiency, is the fraternity that will be regarded with most affection and loyalty by its members, and with most respect by its rivals.

Advertent to this belief, the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the opening of Sigma Nu's General Offices was made the occasion for a great fraternal demonstration in connection with the meeting of the Twenty-second Grand Chapter, held at the West Baden Springs Hotel, West Baden, Indiana, December 30-31, 1925, January 1, 1926. The ten years preceding had comprised a period of constructive development. The launching of the centralized administrative system, the campaign for the Permanent Endowment Fund, the inauguration of effective scholarship regulations—these movements had featured a decade of progress ostensibly material in aspect, yet spiritual in ultimate motive. For a well-financed, progressive organization is necessary to promote a strong and enduring fraternity spirit. Yet, such progress would be unavailing if fundamental aims were obscured or superseded. This fact was stressed by Walter J. Sears in his message to the Fraternity when he retired from the regency. After reviewing his official service, which began with historical research, and the climax of which was his work in reconstructing the Fraternity's administrative system, Sears thus expressed his conclusions and his convictions:

"These systems we need. They will give us the framework for the Temple. But they are not the life and light and spirit. Do not glorify them.

"Let others have the credit for our business system. It is good, but it is not supreme. Let me go back to my first labors of love for Sigma Nu. Let me search out the hearts of Hopkins and the Founders. Let me strive to utter in simple but flaming words the abiding truth of their lives. Let me see and serve the Temple of their Faith, dedicated to the upbuilding of men in the paths of Love and Honor and Truth, and let me ask them: 'What is the system by which you conceived and founded this Faith? What is the system by which you have planted and rooted it in men's hearts?'

"And this was their answer; this is their answer, now, here, at this moment: 'It is the system of Love and Honor and Truth, which gets itself expressed in the lives of men by thoughts and deeds of kindness and good will, of self-denying ministry to others; of a big heroic calm giving of one's self to some

There is one thing I know, if the Sigma Nu fraternity will cling to the old landmarks, and not get off on a tangent, seeking pleasure, instead of happiness, she will grow and live, when you and I, are but a memory. The "Brotherhood of Man", is the offspring of the "Fatherhood of God", accepting the latter, and living up to the true principles of the former, makes a small number, an invincible host, Storms may beat against them, to turn them aside, but practicing the true principles of Honor, Integrity, Justice, Truth and Fraternity they will come off conquerors in the end.

THE GOSPEL OF SIGMA NU

Reproduction of part of a letter written by Founder James F. Hopkins to Clarence E. Woods, then Grand Recorder of Sigma Nu.

woman of incorruptible devotion; to some cause of immeasurable goodness to men; to some nation which is called to free and uplift humanity.' The final test of all systems is this system of Love."

The Twenty-second Grand Chapter met the test of the Founders' System. As Walter Sears had charged the Fraternity on the threshold of its second half-century to cling to its fundamental virtue as its basic motive, so he inspired the opening session of this Grand Chapter with an invocation of the sentiment manifest throughout this memorable reunion. After eloquently depicting historical events and reviewing the achievements of Sigma Nu's sixth decade, Sears concluded:

"Having set our house in order, having solved our fundamental problems of finance and administration, having brought our Fraternity through the meager years of stress and struggle, into the open highway of freedom and power, we are to erect upon that Highway a new memorial, which shall mark the fifty-seventh mile-stone of our progress; and we shall inscribe upon that Memorial these words: 'Sigma Nu—A Communion of Souls—A Knighthood of Fraternal Service!'

"For this is to be a Grand Chapter of sacred memories, of joyful recollections, of blessed companionships, of quiet renewals of our vows, of happy trystings of men who love each other.

"If now at this convocation which marks the anniversary of fifty-seven years of constantly widening influence; if, at this hallowed hour of our first fraternal greetings, we shall give ourselves to the silent voices of this historic scene; if we shall permit our better natures to respond to the memories of a Fellowship which has blessed us with its loving restraints, I know that the spirits of human intercession will move among us; purging our souls of clinging resentments and self-commiserations; chastening our pride, destroying our unbelief, restoring our Faith; and lifting us up into the light and warmth of a new exaltation of fraternal joy.

"And now, while we wait and pray, I behold, descending upon this Grand Chapter, a Pentecost of Manly Betrothments, transforming us and filling our minds with a clearer and finer conception of the real meaning and mission of Sigma Nu Fraternity: A Brotherhood of Men, for men who revere God and love each other!"

Inspired by this invocation and by the presence of men who had exemplified its sentiments in distinguished service for Sigma Nu, the Twenty-second Grand Chapter was in verity a communion of souls. Its most impressive feature was the reunion of the two Past Commanders of old Alpha, Philip Grymes Omohundro and Philip Edward Yeatman, whose devoted friendship was a factor in saving the Fraternity at the most critical period in its history.

The meeting of these two chapter-mates, after more than forty years of separation, was an affecting demonstration of the constancy of fraternity friendships. Their joyful fellowship together had a soul-stirring influence on the spiritual tone of the Twenty-second Grand Chapter.

Interesting historical facts and fascinating stories of early times were related

by these men of old Alpha Chapter at the smoker, an informal fraternizing session held around the mammoth fire-place in the spacious atrium of the hotel, a setting strikingly appropriate for such a gathering. In connection with this affair, there was inaugurated the custom of conferring upon the retiring head of the Fraternity the Past Regent degree, a burlesque initiation service with a serious motif, at the conclusion of which ceremony Regent Roberts was invested with a secret token, previously known only to the Past Commanders of Old Alpha at a time when the head of the Mother Chapter was virtually Regent of the Fraternity. From Past Commanders Omohundro and Yeatman, through Past Regents Wilson, Sears and Smith, the whispered word was handed down



ALPHA'S SPIRIT ABIDES

The inspirational feature of the Twenty-second Grand Chapter was the reunion of Past Commanders Philip G. Omohundro, Alpha '79 (left), and Philip E. Yeatman, Alpha '80 (right), whose friendship was a supporting factor in the developments of the Renaissance period.

to Regent Roberts to be perpetuated as a token of fidelity linking those who serve in the highest office of Sigma Nu. Further to memorialize traditions of Alpha in Grand Chapters and to commemorate this occasion of their joyful reunion, in behalf of Yeatman and himself, Omohundro presented to Regent Roberts for use at Grand Chapters a gavel carved from part of a caisson which had been used by V. M. I. cadets in training under Major "Stonewall" Jackson. The piece of the historic caisson from which this gavel was carved was presented for this sentimental purpose by officials of Virginia Military Institute.

The reminiscent nature of this fraternal gathering was accentuated by prearranged reunions of associates of other Grand Chapters, representatives of

seventeen earlier conventions participating in this biennial love feast. Forty years of Grand Chapter fellowship were revived in this reunion through the presence of Past Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods and Joel Glover Jeffcoat, Xi, Emory, the contact embracing the second convention held at Lexington, Kentucky, in 1886. Jeffcoat's love for Sigma Nu had not languished in the four decades and the exuberant enthusiasm of Clarence Woods had lost none of its potency. This was the seventeenth Grand Chapter attended by Woods, an unequaled record of which he proudly boasted.

The return of Past Regent Walter J. Sears to Grand Chapter associations, after a lapse of eight years, was the supreme factor in composing the spiritual



"IN TOKEN OF ALPHA'S ABIDING SPIRIT"
"Presented at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter by Past Eminent Commanders Philip G. Omohundro, Alpha, 1879, and Philip E. Yeatman, Alpha, 1880."

notes of the Twenty-second Grand Chapter into a symphony of fraternal feeling. At the smoker on the first evening Walter Sears supplemented the vivid reminiscences of the two Alpha veterans by telling of his visits to the homes of the Founders and other early notables and of his pilgrimage to the birthplace of Sigma Nu. At the banquet on the closing night the reading of The Creed of Sigma Nu by its author was the emotional climax of that occasion. Throughout the three days of this memorable meeting the idealism of Walter Sears pervaded the spiritual environment of this Grand Chapter as the Pentecost he visualized descending upon it, inspiring those present with "a clearer and finer conception of the real meaning of Sigma Nu Fraternity".

The Twenty-second Grand Chapter was in a sense a living paraphrase of the history of Sigma Nu. In personnel, in spirit, in perspective, it mirrored the past and made manifest with what steadfastness the Fraternity had clung to its traditions; with what consistency its destiny had been wrought. For the story

of Sigma Nu is a record as rare in its demonstration of resoluteness and constancy as it is remarkable in its revelations of progress and achievement.

Regent John M. Roberts, who presided over the sessions of the Twenty-second Grand Chapter, strikingly represented the influence that had induced constancy and consistency throughout fifty-seven years of the Fraternity's history. In a marked way John Roberts personified the ideals to which Sigma Nu had adhered in attaining affluence and position without repudiating its traditions. He served in the regency with dignity befitting the highest office in the Fraternity, but with no more ostentation than displayed when in the year 1892, aboard a cattle train, he circumvented college restrictions and made his way to the meeting of the Sixth Grand Chapter. For thirty-five years his career as a member of Sigma Nu singularly paralleled the Fraternity's development. Knighted in the heyday of the Bennett-Harrington regime, Roberts experienced in his collegiate chapter life the romanticism of medieval times in Sigma Nu history. Under *sub rosa* limitations he had to fight for the privilege of retaining active membership in the Fraternity; and he learned to cherish the relationship immeasurably. Put to the severest test of loyalty through the desertion of the Chapter with which he affiliated John Roberts exemplified honor as typified in Founder Hopkins. Bereft of a living Chapter upon which to bestow his assiduous affections, his unremitting interest was turned to broader spheres, and John Roberts became an aggressive exponent of the spirit and purpose of national unity in Sigma Nu.



OSCAR PALMOUR, KAPPA
Vice Regent, 1921-26, elected Regent in 1926, the culminating distinction in a decade of official service in Sigma Nu.

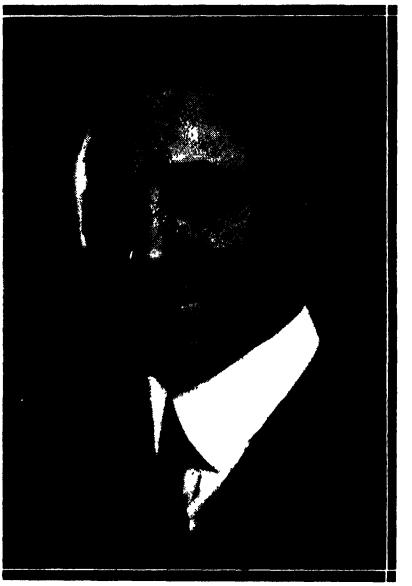
John Roberts was drawn into official connection with the Fraternity when, in 1917, he was made Inspector of the Ninth Division, embraced in which jurisdiction were the States of Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. His organizing abilities soon became manifest and his methods were accepted as standard. In the employment of "Roberts Notes", a form and system adopted generally in chapter house financing, his name was perpetuated with his methods. In the fourth year of his inspectorship Roberts was elected Vice Regent. His application of time and thought and energy as a member of the High Council was unprecedented. During his two-year term as Regent he visited most of the Chapters, personally bearing expenses of his trips that penetrated every section

of the country. As a result of this intimate observation of conditions his report as Regent at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter was a masterpiece in comprehension and in worth. It was a veritable rendering of the Ten Talents.

In the personnel of the retiring and incoming High Councils at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter was evidenced to what remarkable degree Sigma Nu had maintained contact with its romantic past, while achieving the distinction of being one of the most progressive Greek-letter fraternities—a matter of much significance in accounting for the Fraternity's success and of vital consequence in contemplating the future conduct of the organization. A total of one hundred and fifty-seven years was represented in the aggregate period that the four High Council officials, serving at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter, had been



ORVILLE M. BARNETT, RHO
Veteran alumnus of the University of Missouri Chapter, Grand Counselor, 1923-26, elected Vice Regent at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter.

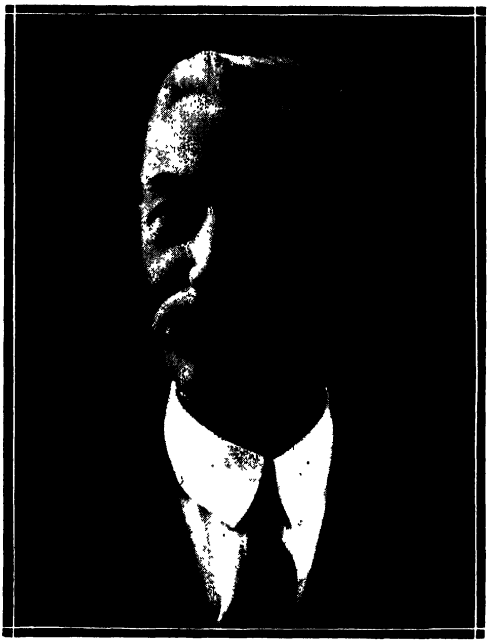


JOHN W. ESTERLINE, BETA ZETA
Purdue Chapter alumnus, active in organizing the Permanent Endowment Fund campaign, elected Grand Counselor in 1926.

members of Sigma Nu. Vice Regent Oscar Palmour, who was advanced to the regency, had exemplified in active service for thirty-four years the spirit of old Kappa Chapter, North Georgia College, the shrine of John Alexander Howard, the birthplace of *The Delta*, and the keystone of the revival movement which rescued Sigma Nu from threatened disintegration at the beginning of its second decade. Grand Counselor Orville Barnett, who succeeded Palmour as Vice Regent, had typified for thirty-eight years the old-school devotee of Sigma Nu that characterized sons of Rho Chapter, University of Missouri, a Chapter regarded as exemplar in strength and splendor during Grant Harrington's conquest of the West and in its manifestations of loyalty a Chapter unique through-

out two-score years of illustrious history. The only new member elected to the High Council at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter was Grand Counselor John W. Esterline, Beta Zeta, Purdue, who brought into official service experience gained in thirty years of unceasing interest in the welfare of the Fraternity, a record of faithfulness that reflected the zeal of the Chapters gained in Sigma Nu's memorable advance across the Ohio River, the Rubicon of its history.

The concluding year of half a century's membership in Sigma Nu dawned upon the fraternity career of Grand Treasurer Samuel F. Pegues as he brought to a close at the Twenty-second Grand Chapter a service of seventeen years on the High Council. The total membership of Sigma Nu was less than one hundred and fifty in the year 1876, when Pegues was made a Knight of the Legion of Honor at Theta Chapter, University of Alabama, then known as Chapter VIII, the only shrine besides Alpha where the altar fire was burning at that critical period of the Fraternity's history. A Knighthood of twenty thousand living members paid signal tribute to the veteran Grand Treasurer on the occasion of his retirement from office, the Grand Chapter delegates and visitors formed in line, greeting him with hand clasps, betokening the esteem and affection held for him throughout the Fraternity. In Sigma Nu the name of Pegues had become a symbol of integrity, a synonym of faithfulness. The surplus he so zealously accumulated and guarded so vigilantly during the early years of his official service became the foundation of the Fraternity's strong financial structure, the underlying support of the several movements which firmly established Sigma Nu in a front rank position among college fraternities.



SAMUEL F. PEGUES, THETA
Grand Treasurer, 1908-1926
His year of jubilee, the fiftieth anniversary of his initiation into Sigma Nu, marked the end of his notable official career.

In the seventeen years that Pegues had served as Grand Treasurer that office had not been regarded subject to the system of rotation which generally had governed in biennial elections of High Council members. Years of intimate experience with the Fraternity's administrative affairs were considered essential for intelligent grasp of the conduct of the Grand Treasurer's office and the fixity of tenure of that official was regarded as an important factor in main-

taining a stable financial policy. It had become Grand Chapter tradition that, upon call for nominations for Grand Treasurer, the name "Pegues" would be shouted vociferously. Although the physical and mental vigor of this chivalrous son of Theta showed no lessening in the years of his seventh decade, the venerable Grand Treasurer deemed it his duty to retire when there was available a worthy successor younger in years. It was in support of a desire to conserve in the office of Grand Treasurer the unique experience and peculiar aptitude of the retiring Regent, John M. Roberts, that Pegues acted in declining re-election. In recording the election of John M. Roberts to the office of Grand Treasurer the chronology of this history, covering a period of fifty-seven years, is fittingly concluded.



JOHN M. ROBERTS
BETA GAMMA-BETA PI
Regent, 1923-1926. His worth as an official was recognized by his election to the office of Grand Treasurer in 1926, immediately after his retirement from the regency.

The motif and the moral of The Story of Sigma Nu are comprehended in significance attached to the records of these High Council associates, whose careers embraced contact with three major periods of Sigma Nu history—the romantic age, the heroic epoch, and the era of material aggrandizement. In the fellowship of service, these officials realized the fullest measure of enjoyment to be found in fraternity relationship. For truly it may be stated that the Fraternity means to a member what that member means to the Fraternity. John Howard loved Sigma Nu more because he suffered from sacrifices made in founding and maintaining *The Delta*. Robinson's boundless love for the Fraternity was born in service rendered in connection with the revival movement and in planning the First Convention. Harrington's devotion to the Order was intensified by his heroic labors which gave the Fraternity its impetus toward national development. Love for Sigma Nu became a jealous passion with Clarence Woods because he gave so much of his life in work for the Fraternity. Not in the extent of their service, but in the degree of their unselfish interest in the Fraternity did these outstanding characters approach the maximum of enjoyment in Sigma Nu relationship. Not for the want of the same opportunities to serve, but through failure to appreciate and to emulate the unselfish motive of such leaders have others forfeited similar enjoyment of Sigma Nu associations. Within the range of every collegiate member within the grasp



FOUNDER JAMES FRANK HOPKINS
Alpha No. 1
The leading Founder of Sigma Nu.

of each alumnus is opportunity to render some service to Sigma Nu, from which will develop greater love for the Fraternity, hence a more active and abiding interest in its welfare.

This is the basis of the Founders' System—"the system of Love and Honor and Truth, which gets itself expressed in the lives of men by thoughts and deeds of kindness and good will, of self-denying ministry to others." Such was the unselfish motive of Founder Hopkins in his benevolences toward others, from which sprang the Legion of Honor. Such was his meaning in the vow he made in his farewell address at the Fifteenth Grand Chapter in 1910, the last con-

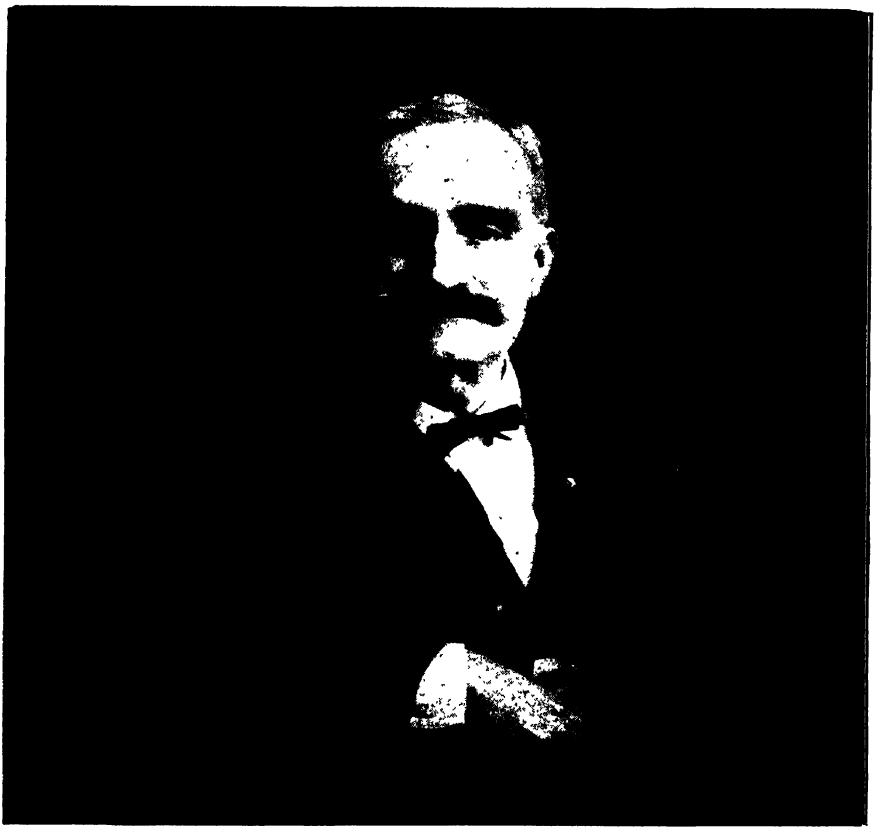


THE HOPKINS MEMORIAL
Erected by the Fraternity in memory of Founder Hopkins and his wife, Jennie Barclay Hopkins.

vention he attended. Following an impassioned plea that the precepts of the Legion of Honor might remain ever the guiding motive of Sigma Nu, Founder Hopkins concluded:

"Those principles that underlie the organization of this Fraternity are imperishable. He who lives honorably, truthfully and justly, exercising that brotherly love for his fellowman, thereby cementing the brotherhood of man, is coming high up, high up! There is but one step higher and that reaches beyond time. And I beseech you, my Brothers, in all of your transactions, in all of your actions, in your thoughts, in your motives as well as your actions, be true to yourselves, be true to your country, be true to your Divinity!

"I have tried to live up to the high standard set by the White, Black and Gold; and I propose in the few remaining years that may be allotted me to pray the Great Giver of Life that I may be found as true, even more true, as Ruth



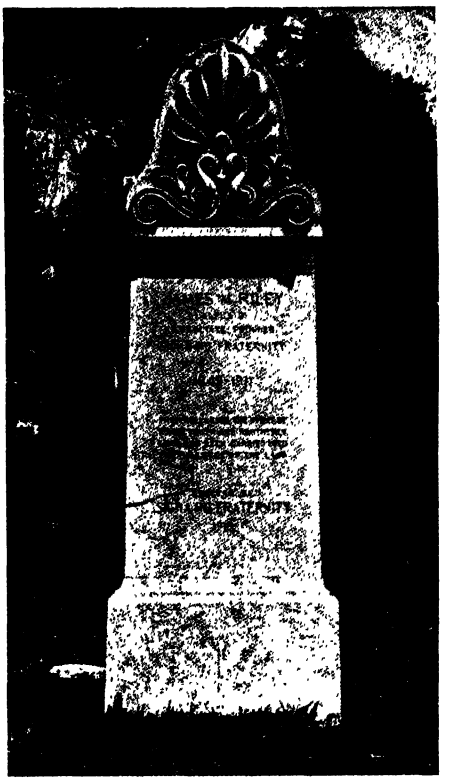
FOUNDER JAMES M. RILEY, ALPHA No. 3
Associate Founder of Sigma Nu. Alpha's first Eminent Commander. First Eminent Regent of Sigma Nu, which office he held for ten years, 1869-79.

to Naomi, when she left the land of Moab and returned to Canaan. 'Where thou goest I will go, and where thou lodgest I will lodge; thy people shall be my people and thy God shall be my God; where thou diest will I die, and there will I be buried.'

"Aye, I will give you a better promise than that. I will strive to reach even the standard of the Giver of Life; I will, to every extent possible in my weak way, be faithful unto Death!"

So lived throughout his life this great exemplar of fraternity. Writing of him in "A Pilgrimage to the Founders" Walter James Sears, then Grand Historian, summarized the career of Founder Hopkins with this tribute:

"Brother Hopkins has stood as the upright and blameless citizen in whom all men have placed the fullest confidence. Casting their lot in a community where the higher refinements of society were difficult of realization, this young man and his devoted wife took up bravely and cheerfully the duties of their new home and remained faithful to them to the end. Sharing the joys and sorrows that must come in every life, loyal to the highest ideals of virtue and honor, and rearing their children into a noble manhood and womanhood, their household of Love and Faith became a temple of consecrated service, whose ministrations touched the entire community.



MEMORIAL TO FOUNDER RILEY
Erected by the Fraternity in memory of Sigma Nu's first Regent.

"As I walked with Brother Hopkins in the evening to the train, down the red road, beneath the tranquil shadows of the Southern pines, the setting sun threw its mellow light across the scenes, which were sacred to the memory of his youth and hers—the sweetheart, the wife, the mother, now lost to view. How strangely typical, I thought, was this sweet-scented evening of his own life, coming now into the shadows which conceal the infinite highway that leads up into the eternal light of God. As the last words which we were to have together were about to be spoken, I could not resist the searching thought: 'Has he been true to the Faith which he conceived?' For answer, my mind went back over the record of his life as I had learned it; my eyes turned again upon him as he stood there, calm, brave, hopeful, loved and esteemed by all



GREENFIELD QUARLES
Alpha No. 2
Associate Founder of Sigma Nu Fraternity.

men who knew him. And I said: 'He has been so true to the Faith which he conceived that he has lived it. He is the one Knight without fear and without reproach'."

The useful life of Founder James Frank Hopkins ended December 15, 1913. In the village cemetery at Mablevale, Arkansas, he was laid beside the grave of his cadet sweetheart, his devoted wife, Jennie Barclay Hopkins. Upon the center tablet of a memorial which marks this hallowed spot the following inscription is carved below a bronze reproduction of the Fraternity Coat of Arms:

ERECTED IN MEMORY OF
J. FRANK HOPKINS, ALPHA
FOUNDER
SIGMA NU FRATERNITY
VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE
JANUARY 1, 1869

ON THE FOUNDATION WHICH HE LAID HAS BEEN BUILDED A GREAT FRATERNITY AND THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE AND BROTHERLY LOVE WHICH HE TAUGHT HAVE BEEN CARRIED INTO ALL THE COLLEGES OF THE LAND

ERECTED JANUARY 1920 BY
THE SIGMA NU FRATERNITY



FOUNDER QUARLES
At the dedication of the Fraternity's Memorial to Founder Hopkins.

This memorial was formally dedicated on May 7, 1920, delegates and visitors of the joint convention of the Eleventh and Twelfth Divisions attending the services in a body. Greenfield Quarles, the only Founder then living, was present, and in a tribute to Founder Hopkins declared:

"The love of our Brother for his fellowman was only excelled by his love of his God. His example has instilled into the hearts of us all the principles which guide us now, and these principles will go down to future generations for all time. His life has been an inspiration to all youth. All that was mortal of Brother Hopkins lies buried here; but his immortal spirit will live forever."

Past Regent James M. Riley was the first of the Founders to pass to the Chapter Grand. His death occurred May 6, 1911, at St. Louis, Missouri. The lot in Bellefontaine Cemetery, to which members of the Fraternity carried the remains of Founder Riley for burial, was purchased by the St. Louis Alumni Chapter as a mark of fraternal affection for the Founder, whose declining years were spent in this city of his birth. A monument erected by the Fraternity in memory of Founder Riley marks his grave. Extreme diffidence had restrained Founder Riley from accepting invitations to Grand Chapters, and only those

members of Sigma Nu who sought his delightful fellowship in his bachelor retreat were privileged to enjoy in his later years the companionable nature that made "Mac" Riley a popular idol at V. M. I., the first Commander of Alpha Chapter, the first Regent of Sigma Nu.

The death of Greenfield Quarles at his home in Helena, Arkansas, January 14, 1921, took the last of the Founders from living contact with the Fraternity. Prophetic of this parting, his memorable toast, "The Birth of Sigma Nu", delivered at the Nineteenth Grand Chapter but a year before the death of Founder Quarles, was inspired with a feeling that it might be the last injunction from a Founder that the Fraternity would receive. His eloquent voice depicted with dramatic emotion the meeting on the night of January 1, 1869, when, quoting his words, "we went to a lonely place on the parade grounds by the side of a great limestone rock and there, looking up into the heavens, almost feeling that we could see God Almighty looking down upon us, we took the oath and obligation that bound us together for life."



THE QUARLES FAMILY MEMORIAL
Cadwallader L. Polk, Sigma, grandson of Founder Quarles, at right.

Concluding this inspiring address Founder Quarles delivered this farewell charge to the Fraternity:

"It is indeed an experience to meet here fifty years later and look back at the three of us who stood there in the night time, with the stars shining down upon us. I remember it so well. These are sweet communions, because while you do not see them and you do not realize it, it seems to me that here, around me, somewhere, I can see or feel the spirit of Hopkins and Riley.

"Standing here now, it may be the last time I may look upon the faces of many of you, or any of you. I charge you to remember Honor, Truth and Brotherly Love, not only for yourself, not only for Sigma Nu, not only for the inner circle of your community, but for this whole country. Every man here has an influence, and it is your duty to exercise it.

"I do not want to appear to be irreverent; but when in the long ago the lowly Nazarene came to save the world, and with His twelve Disciples went forth to save the world, He set an example for all people. Suppose this assembly would follow in His footsteps and also continue the teachings of Sigma Nu. Think of what we could do."

By so doing Greenfield Quarles lived true to the Founders' System. His was a life of noble service. He set an example for Christian living. Above the family monument in Maple Hill Cemetery at Helena, Arkansas, is raised the Cross he followed. Upon the Fraternity's memorial, marking his grave, is carved a design of the Badge he honored.

* * * * *

The Story of Sigma Nu is not ended. These chronicles but reveal the groundwork, the underlying principles, the fundamental motives, the supporting



THE FRATERNITY'S MEMORIAL TO FOUNDER QUARLES.

achievements of fifty-seven years of praiseworthy history. If Sigma Nu is to maintain its distinctive characteristics; if the Fraternity is to hold the unique position of respect and influence that has been won in three-score years of consistent progress, then the memory of those who have served and sacrificed must be cherished and the spirit of their unselfish service must be fostered. To that end this Story of Sigma Nu is consecrated. It is written in vain if it does not inspire others to seek and to know and by so living to glorify the Founders' System; that in their own lives it may be expressed by thoughts and deeds of kindness and good will of self-denying ministry to others. For of such is the Knighthood of Sigma Nu.

The Fraternity Marches On

SUPPLEMENT TO

THE STORY OF SIGMA NU

Covering the Period
1926-1936

By
CHARLES EDWARD THOMAS
Beta Omicron, Sewanee
Assistant General Secretary and Editor of THE DELTA *since 1929*

CHAPTER XXXI

Stability Comes With Age

General Offices Move to Illinois Building

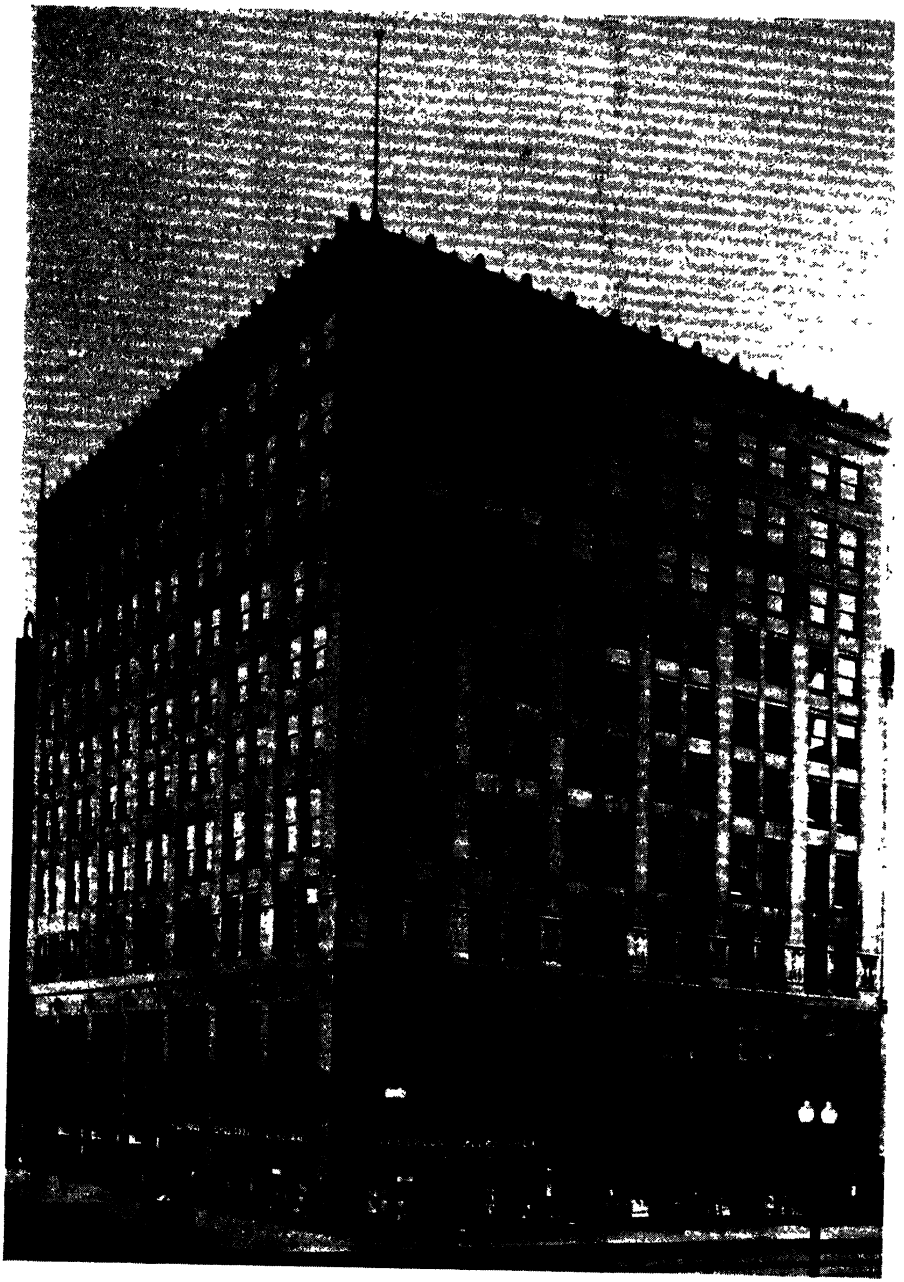
PURSUANT to the action of the West Baden Grand Chapter, the General Offices of the Fraternity were moved from the Lemcke Building in Indianapolis, to more commodious quarters in the newly erected Illinois Building. The new location of the General Offices is on the same Market Street in Indianapolis, but three blocks west of the former building, on the corner of Illinois and Market Streets. In May, 1926, with the opening of the modern Greek style office building, the General Offices took the space listed as 745 Illinois Building. Rooms are provided for a large office in which are fireproof vaults for filing permanent records, files and desk space for clerks, stenographers and bookkeeper, and a side room for storage and printing, an office for the Editor of *The Delta*, and a spacious office for the General Secretary in which meetings of the High Council and Board of Trustees are held.

The administrative demands of the Fraternity are adequately provided for in this enlarged and more modern office space.

Founding of Epsilon Nu Chapter at Miami University

Epsilon Nu Chapter was installed at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, April 29, 1927, with twenty-seven charter members. Sigma Nu had many years before anticipated entering this old fraternity stronghold. In 1894 the Greek-letter designation, Beta Pi, was set aside for a proposed chapter at Miami. The date had been selected for the installation of this chapter by Walter J. Sears, when a bill was introduced in the Ohio legislature proposing that the University be made a preparatory school. Concern over this caused the reconsideration of the favorable action on the Miami petition, and resulted in the Fraternity not entering Miami at that period.

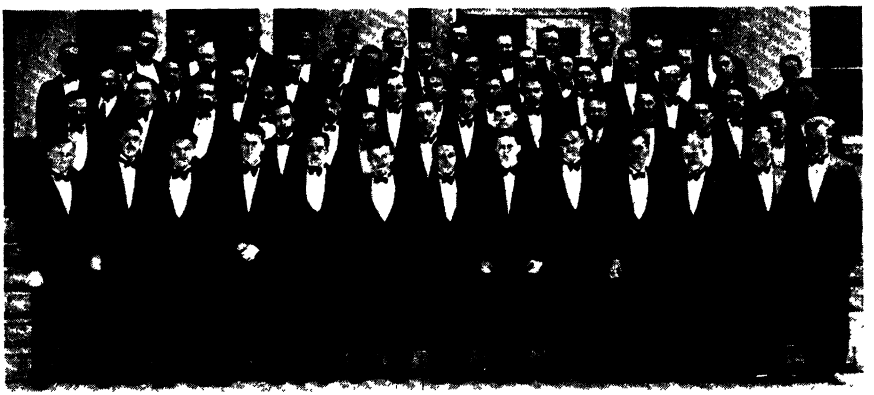
Miami University is an integral part of the system of higher education maintained in the State of Ohio. The University was established by act of the legislature February 17, 1809. Miami represents a distinctive type of state university operating in a limited field of subject-matter not far removed from the liberal arts and basic sciences. It was the second state institution of higher learning to be established west of the Alleghanies. Actual collegiate instruction began at Miami in 1824. It was outstanding in its early life, though it suffered financial reverses after the War between the States and closed in 1873, reopening with state support in 1885. Since that time it has advanced consistently.



THE ILLINOIS BUILDING, INDIANAPOLIS

In which the General Offices of the Fraternity were removed in May, 1926.
In classic Grecian lines rises this modern ten-story building on the "twenty-four-hour" corner of Market and Illinois Streets.

Famed in fraternity history as the birthplace of the Miami Triad, Beta Theta Pi, Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Chi, this has been an important center in national fraternity growth and development. The extension of Alpha Delta Phi into Miami in 1833 marked the beginning of fraternities thoroughly representative in their range of activity. Since 1873 this chapter has been inactive, however. Beta Theta Pi was founded at Miami in 1839; Phi Delta Theta, 1848; and Sigma Chi, 1855. Delta Kappa Epsilon placed a chapter there in 1852, as did Delta Upsilon in 1868. Phi Kappa Tau, the fourth Miami-born fraternity, had its beginning in 1906, and Sigma Delta Rho was founded at Miami in 1921. These were the forerunners of Sigma Nu at Miami, as were also Delta Tau Delta, 1916; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1919; Theta Upsilon Omega, 1925; and Beta Kappa, 1926.



CHARTER MEMBERS AND ALUMNI OF EPSILON NU
AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY
Few chapters have been installed in the presence of so many prominent officers of the Fraternity.

The local fraternity, precursor of Epsilon Nu Chapter, was Alpha Theta Phi, organized at Miami in 1919. President Hughes early recognized the local and became its adviser. Inspector Trafford Tallmadge, Beta Upsilon, Rose Poly, first presented the petition to Sigma Nu. It was subsequently approved under the inspectorship of Roy L. Bovard, Delta Delta, Pennsylvania State College. Following the High Council's approval in the spring of 1926, a referendum vote of the chapters was taken and an approval registered the following February. Inspector Glen H. Bales, Delta Alpha, Case, and General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams were appointed installing officers. An initiation team was selected from Delta Sigma Chapter at Carnegie School of Technology. The Fifth Division Convention was held at Miami on the day prior to the installation of the new chapter. Probably no chapter has been installed in the presence of a greater array of prominent past and present officials of the Fraternity than Epsilon Nu on April 29, 1927. Present were three members of the High Council—Regent Oscar Palmour, Vice Regent Orville M. Barnett, and Grand Counselor John W. Esterline. Past Grand Recorder and Editor of *The Delta*

Clarence E. Woods, Past Regent Albert H. Wilson, Past Regent and Editor Walter J. Sears, Grand Historian and Past Editor John C. Scott, General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams, Editor Harry A. Rider, Past Inspectors Trafford Tallmadge and Roy L. Bovard, Inspectors Glen H. Bales of the Fifth Division, and Addison Hibbard of the Eighteenth Division, in addition to a large number of alumni and collegiate members, attended the installation. Robert B. Sinclair, Beta Eta, Indiana, was made the new chapter's first adviser, and Roy E. Witherby, the first commander. The chapter owned its home and according to the General Secretary's report of the installation in *The Delta* "the new chapter has a splendid standing upon the campus".

FOUNDING OF EPSILON XI CHAPTER AT UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

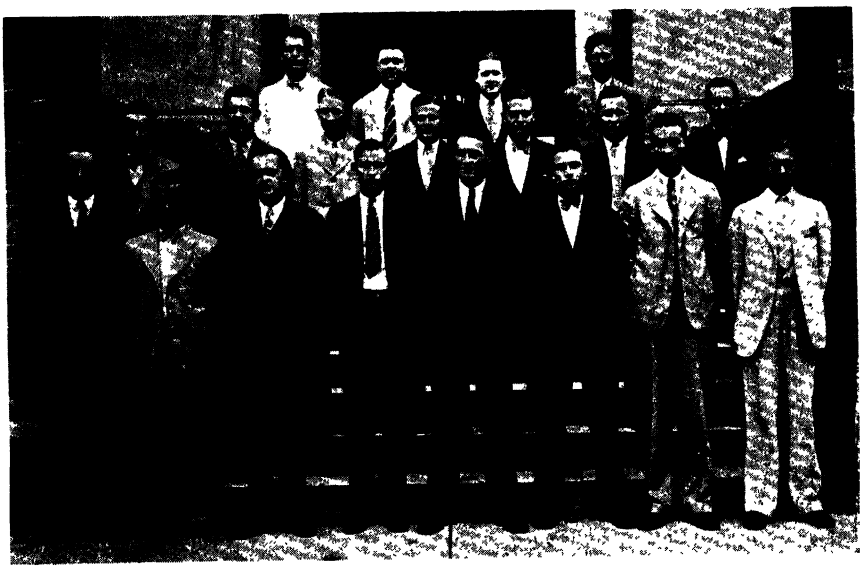
The University of Mississippi, located at Oxford, owes its origin to the policy adopted by the Continental Congress in the ordinance which became law July 13, 1787, and which was enacted for the government of the Northwest Territory. Its provisions were afterwards extended in general to all the public domain. This ordinance declared in reference to education in the region to which it applied that "religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." On February 23, 1844, the University of Mississippi was duly chartered, the location being decided by the bare majority of one vote.

Fraternities early entered the University of Mississippi. Delta Kappa Epsilon and Chi Psi first established chapters there in 1850, Delta Psi 1855, Sigma Chi and Phi Kappa Psi 1857, Phi Kappa Sigma 1859, Sigma Alpha Epsilon 1866, Phi Gamma Delta 1868, Phi Delta Theta 1877, Beta Theta Pi 1879, Delta Tau Delta 1886, Kappa Alpha (S) 1900. In 1912 the Mississippi legislature forbade by law fraternities in the University. In 1924 the legislature was considering the repeal of the antifraternity law. Three Sigma Nus, Arthur S. Hoff, Gamma Mu, Illinois; Jack E. Strange, Phi, Louisiana State; and William B. Abbott, Jr., Beta Phi, Tulane, were then at the University of Mississippi. They organized a local club to petition Sigma Nu in the event of repeal of the law. The defeat of the bill ended their hopes, but two years later the bill was reintroduced and passed. Robert W. Hinton, III, Beta Omicron, Sewanee, of Lumberton, Mississippi, then a member of the junior class in the University of Mississippi, immediately organized Tau Gamma Phi to petition Sigma Nu. In this club he borrowed the name, badge and ritual of the organization that had successfully brought Beta Omicron Chapter back to Sewanee in 1921. Within two weeks after the repeal of the state law against fraternities Tau Gamma Phi had its petition in the hands of Inspector Walter M. Noel, Sigma, Vanderbilt, of the Third Division.

With the repeal in 1926, six fraternities immediately revived their chapters at "Ole Miss," Sigma Chi, Kappa Alpha (S), Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Phi Delta Theta, Delta Tau Delta and Delta Psi. The same year Kappa Sigma established a chapter, and early in 1927 Alpha Tau Omega entered Mississippi.

Through a referendum vote of the chapters of Sigma Nu, the Tau Gamma

Phi petition was approved in the spring of 1927 by an overwhelming majority. Epsilon Xi chapter was installed at the University of Mississippi, June 4, 1927, with sixteen charter members. Inspector Noel and General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams were in charge of the installation. The initiation team was made up of young alumni from over the Magnolia state, Charles C. Phillips, Beta Omicron; J. Joseph Gee, Theta; Dr. H. Fraser Johnstone, Beta Omicron-Beta Mu; Robert H. Lake, Beta; and Robert W. Hinton, Beta Omicron. Dr. Johnstone of the university faculty was made the chapter's first adviser, and John G. Roach the first commander. The installation occurred during the university's commencement week, a feature of which was a reception in honor of the new chapter under the traditional "Ole Miss" Oaks on the university



CHARTER MEMBERS AND ALUMNI OF EPSILON XI AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

Left to right, bottom row: C. Edmonson Jones, Dudley W. Conner, Richard B. Wilson, Jr., Roy M. Brown, George E. Tomlinson, Lincoln F. Sherman, Robert P. Phillips, George H. Hill, Jr. Middle row: Carlton W. Sherman, John G. Roach, John H. Arrington, Jr., James P. Dale, George P. Cossar, Claud J. Irby, Sam Jones.
Top row: Terry S. Swalm, Stanton A. Hall, Edwin R. Butler, George W. Healey, Jr.

campus. The mighty Mississippi River was then on a rampage, several alumni having to come from their homes by boat, due to the flooding of highways and railroads.

THE WASHINGTON GRAND CHAPTER, 1927

The Twenty-third Grand Chapter, the Fraternity's first to be held in Washington, D. C., opened December 29, 1927, and continued through the last day of the year. Regent Oscar Palmour, Kappa, North Georgia, presided over this Grand Chapter. "The Story of Sigma Nu," by Grand Historian

John C. Scott, was presented to the convention as the Fraternity's first history. The merit of it has been evidenced in subsequent issues of Baird's *Manual of College Fraternities,* which lists it with two other fraternity histories as "among the more modern . . . particularly worthy of high praise."

The Grand Chapter provided that "The Story of Sigma Nu" should be purchased by each pledge, and an examination on the history of the Fraternity be satisfactorily passed before a pledge could be initiated.

A brief Funeral Ritual was adopted to be used where the family of a deceased brother requested that the Fraternity preside over the final rites. Credit for the work of this is due the Fraternity's then Grand Chaplain, Harry C. Fraser, Delta Gamma, Columbia.



THE MAYFLOWER HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D. C.
Meeting place of the Twenty-third Grand Chapter in 1927.

The Washington Grand Chapter will stand out for the striking array of prominent members of the Fraternity who attended its various sessions. Meetings were held in the superbly appointed Mayflower Hotel. The Grand Chapter ball, with orchestras at either end of the spacious ballroom, was danced before many high officials of state. Among the distinguished alumni at the Grand Chapter banquet, Senator Frederick Steiwer, Gamma Zeta, Oregon, and Congressman John M. Evans, Rho, Missouri, of Montana, were selected as speakers. Buffet suppers for small groups of delegates at the homes of numerous Washington alumni added much to the success of the social events

of this Grand Chapter. President Calvin Coolidge, an Amherst Phi Gamma Delta, greeted the convention at the White House where the Grand Chapter picture was taken with the President.

Strangely enough, Sigma Nu's first convention at the seat of the national government did not provide much new legislation or law for Sigma Nu, though it did result in the appointment of a "commission of six members to consider the necessity of rewriting or amending the constitution and statutes." This group, which came to be known as the Law Commission, was made up of the newly elected Regent, Orville M. Barnett, Grand Treasurer John Marshall Roberts, Grand Counselor Roy L. Bovard, Past Regent Walter J. Sears, Past Regent Borden H. Burr, and C. Murray Danglade, Nu, Kansas, the latter elected by the active chapter delegates attending the Grand Chapter to represent that group on the commission. Upon the death of Walter Sears in 1929, the Regent appointed Past Regent Albert H. Wilson to fill his place, and upon the graduation of Danglade from the University of Kansas and his inability to continue to serve on the commission, Vernon B. Kassebaum, Rho, Missouri, was appointed to represent the collegiate chapters.

A petition was before the Fraternity from Delta Sigma Nu at the University of South Carolina for the revival of Delta Chapter. Although not acted upon by the Grand Chapter, as the Law then required a referendum vote on petitions, the president of the local group, Thomas Moore Craig, spoke before the convention. The son of a Delta Chapter alumnus, Arthur R. Craig of Charlotte, North Carolina, he was cordially received when he told the delegates of this local club's ambition to become the revived Delta Chapter.



ORVILLE M. BARNETT, RHO
Grand Counselor, 1923-26, Vice Regent, 1926-27, elected Regent in 1927 at the Washington Grand Chapter. Devoted University of Missouri alumnus.

RESIGNATION OF GENERAL SECRETARY ERNEST LEE WILLIAMS

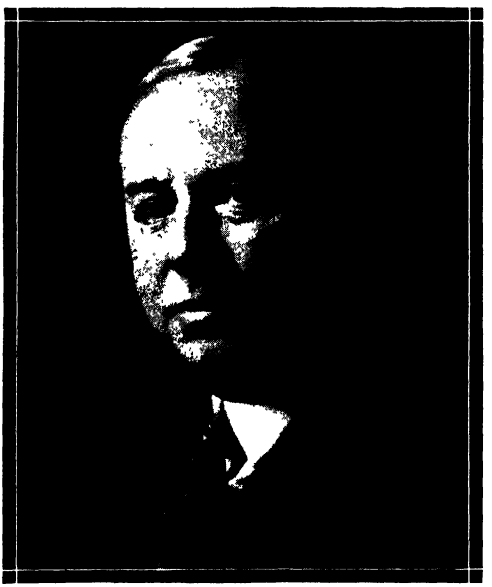
General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams announced his resignation as the chief administrative officer of the Fraternity at the time of the Washington Grand Chapter. Having served in this capacity since 1921, he had seen many changes in the administrative organization of Sigma Nu. The Grand Chapter expressed the Fraternity's appreciation of his "efficient and loyal service to the Fraternity." He returned to Denver, Colorado, to resume the practice of law when he was succeeded as general secretary by Vernon M. Williams.



HILL FERGUSON, THETA
Trustee of the University of Alabama, elected Vice Regent at the Twenty-third Grand Chapter.

The Twenty-third Grand Chapter elevated Vice Regent Orville M. Barnett, Rho, Missouri, to the regency, Rho Chapter's second regent. Hill Ferguson, Theta, Alabama, was elected vice regent *in absentia.* Inspector Roy L. Bovard, Delta Delta, Pennsylvania State College, was elected grand counselor, and Grand Treasurer John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi, Missouri Valley-Chicago, was re-elected to that position for another two year term. Grand Historian John C. Scott, Beta Zeta, Purdue, was re-elected, and Joseph L. Stout, Beta Beta, DePauw, was made grand chaplain.

The biennium following the Washington Grand Chapter demanded much of the new High Council's time and thought. In addition to its usual duties of supervision of the administration of the Fraternity, this High Council selected a new general secretary and editor of *The Delta,* and worked throughout the two years with the other members of the Law Commission toward the revision of Sigma Nu's law and statutes. It was fortunate that so representative a group of men constituted the High Council in this period. Regent Barnett was the attorney among the members, while Vice Regent Hill Ferguson was a business man of wide real estate and building finance experience. Grand Counselor Bovard had been one of the Fraternity's most capable and enthusiastic inspectors whose help had made possible the erection of several outstanding chapter houses. Grand Treasurer Roberts continued to render the services of a business



THE REVEREND JOSEPH L. STOUT, PH.D., BETA BETA
Veteran DePauw alumnus and constant Grand Chapter attendant, elected Grand Chaplain in 1927.

man and financial adviser for which his wide experience was fast making him one of the outstanding men in the physical growth and strength of the Fraternity.

REVIVAL OF DELTA CHAPTER AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Delta Chapter was revived at the University of South Carolina, May 11 and 12, 1928, with elaborate ceremonies held in Columbia. In the spring of 1927 the South Carolina legislature repealed its antifraternity law, the enactment of which had ended the life of so many strong chapters at the University of South Carolina in 1897. The very evening of the day the law was repealed a group of students at the University, mostly sons of Sigma Nus, met with members of the Fraternity in Columbia. Three members of the faculty, John A. Chase, Jr., Delta, Robert L. Sumwalt, Delta Kappa, Delaware, and Robert L. Jones, Delta, along with Colonel John E. Morris, Phi, Louisiana State, John C. B. Smith, Delta, and R. Means Davis, Sr., Delta, formed an alumni group, along with a number of other local alumni of the Fraternity. The Delta Sigma Nu local club was formed to petition the revival of Delta Chapter.

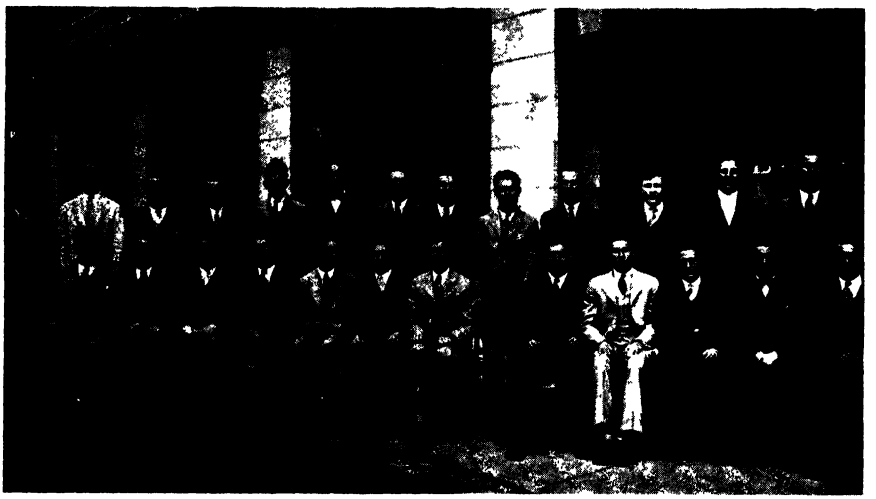
No chapter has had a history so varied as Delta. First a community chapter at Tarboro, North Carolina, it was born directly from Alpha Chapter in 1874, as Sigma Nu's fourth chapter. With eight young business men composing the chapter, its life was short, as no new members were added and it ceased to function after the inaugural year. In 1886 the name Delta was given the chapter at the then South Carolina College. Until forced to withdraw, with the imposition of the state's antifraternity law in 1897, Delta enjoyed a most honorable history, bringing into the Fraternity men who have attained great distinction and brought honor to their fraternity, university, state and nation. From the very start Delta has been representative of the older and more substantial families of the state of South Carolina. It has been noted for the sons of distinguished faculty members who have come into the chapter, a tradition which the present chapter has eminently upheld.

The Nineteenth Grand Chapter in 1920 gave the High Council power to restore as well as withdraw charters. With the hope that a friendly faculty would sanction fraternities at South Carolina, Delta was the first chapter restored under this grant, August 31, 1920. Only one other inactive charter was restored, Beta Omicron at Sewanee, in April, 1921, before the grant was abrogated by the Philadelphia Grand Chapter in December, 1921. Delta Chapter came out openly at the beginning of the 1920 fall term, but the antifraternity law was invoked, and the High Council's refusal to grant *sub rosa* existence necessitated the withdrawal of Delta's charter again in 1921. However, during these two years a splendid group of men was brought into Delta Chapter, men who have had an active and constructive influence on the revived chapter.

Following the Washington Grand Chapter during the Christmas holidays of 1927, where Thomas Moore Craig, president of the South Carolina student body and of the Delta Sigma Nu petitioning group, presented the plea for granting this revival at the University, a referendum vote was taken on the South Carolina revival. A record vote was registered, not one negative vote

being cast in the legal voting period. Seventy-nine chapters voted favorably in this period, establishing the first such overwhelming approval of any petition ever recorded.

Eighteen charter members were initiated in reviving Delta Chapter in the two-day ceremonies held in the Masonic Temple in Columbia. Inspector Addison Hibbard, Gamma Lambda, Wisconsin, of the Eighteenth Division, was in charge of the revival. The initiation team was made of up John A. Chase, Jr., Delta, John C. B. Smith, Delta, Charles D. Blanton, Psi, North Carolina, Frank M. Williams, Beta Tau, North Carolina State, and Charles E. Thomas, Beta Omicron, Sewanee. The first evening of the installation a grand ball was held in the Jefferson Hotel with the socially prominent of the state and university in attendance. A golf match the next afternoon preceded the installation



CHARTER MEMBERS AND ALUMNI INITIATED AT THE TIME OF DELTA CHAPTER'S REVIVAL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Front row, seated, left to right: Thomas Moore Craig; B. Pratt Gasque; George T. McCutchen; Benjamin Gause, Jr.; David H. Rembert; Clarence M. Glenn; R. Means Davis, Jr.; (not in picture: Robert C. Wimberly); Robert Wauchope; F. Sidney Green, Jr.; James A. Cathcart, Jr.; John R. Holcombe; R. Hunter Kennedy. Back row, standing: Lindsay G. Odom; H. Alvin Cox; Jacob G. Wannamaker, Jr.; J. Hugo Hutto; Walter H. Sanders; Albert R. Taber; David C. Milling; W. Peter A. Buyck; Joel A. Smith, Jr.; Robert W. Thomas; H. Bland Hammond, Jr.; David I. Dodenhoff; T. Duckett Young.

banquet, also held at the Jefferson Hotel. Among the many alumni of a dozen chapters present were: Regent Orville M. Barnett; Past Regent Albert H. Wilson, who had revived Delta Chapter in 1920, and was influential in the present revival; General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams; and Haywood Clark, Delta's first initiate at Tarboro in 1874.

When Delta was revived in 1928 it was the fifth of the fifteen fraternities that had once flourished on the University of South Carolina campus to be restored to this strong and conservative state university. Immediately upon repeal of the state's antifraternity law in 1927, Kappa Alpha (S), Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Alpha Tau Omega, and Pi Kappa Phi revived their inactive chapters

or came out of *sub rosa* existence, at least two having maintained such chapters there throughout the antifraternity law's period.

The return of Sigma Nu to the Palmetto State marked the forty-sixth state in which Sigma Nu had an active collegiate chapter; leaving only South Dakota and New Mexico without chapters, this made Sigma Nu the most representative Greek-letter Fraternity.

VERNON M. WILLIAMS MADE GENERAL SECRETARY

General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams was succeeded July 1, 1928, by Vernon M. Williams, Gamma Tau, Minnesota, who resigned as assistant dean of student affairs at the University of Minnesota to accept the position as administrative head of the Fraternity. Ernest Lee Williams, General Secretary from 1921 to 1928, the first full-time secretary of the Fraternity making his headquarters at the General Offices, had seen a vast increase in the demands made on the offices of the Fraternity. It was at the beginning of his term in this office that the Permanent Endowment Fund, conceived by George Arthur Smith, was inaugurated, with its concurrent chapter house loans. A greater number of chapter houses was built in this period than in any similar time in the history of the Fraternity. It was under the direction of "Dad" Williams, as he was known throughout the Fraternity, and through his constant visitations to all chapters, that the Fraternity developed its closely knit national unity. And it was through his forceful supervision that the administrative offices became vital in the growth and strength of the Fraternity.



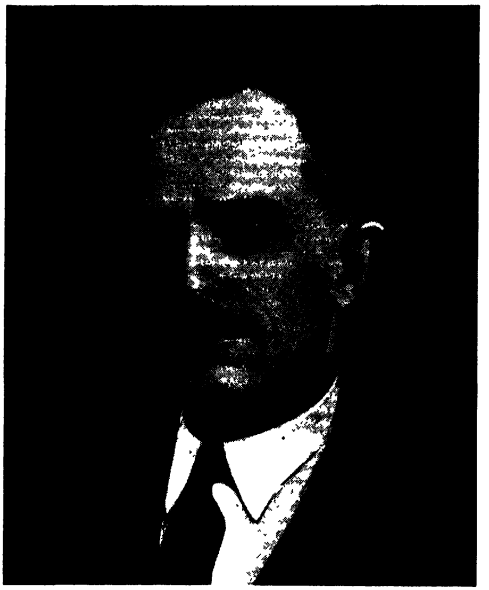
VERNON M. WILLIAMS, GAMMA TAU
Assistant Dean of Men at his alma mater, the University of Minnesota, elected General Secretary in 1928.

The new General Secretary, Vernon M. Williams, had enjoyed close fraternity contacts in three parts of the country before assuming his new position. As an outstanding undergraduate at Minnesota, he made an unusual record in football, scholarship and student politics. In 1919 he was captain-elect of the University's football team and received honorable mention on Walter Camp's All-America team. At the same time he was commander of Gamma Tau Chapter. His undergraduate career was interrupted by the World War, during which time he served as an ensign and naval aviator. He was graduated in 1921, fifth in his class and with election to Sigma Xi. It was said of him upon completing his course at Minnesota that "All in all his is the most formidable list of honors that have ever come to one man at the University during his

college career." Following graduation Vernon Williams was on the staff of his alma mater, later at Kansas State College, and North Carolina State College. While at the latter he served for a year as inspector of the Eighteenth Division, made up of the states of North and South Carolina.

RESIGNATION OF EDITOR HARRY A. RIDER

Ill-health had prevented Harry A. Rider, editor of *The Delta* and assistant general secretary, from fulfilling his duties, and the four issues of *The Delta* during the year 1928 were edited by the General Office staff under the direction of Ernest Lee Williams and Vernon M. Williams. The latter was listed as "Acting Editor" of the December, 1928, *Delta.*



HARRY A. RIDER, DELTA ZETA
Whose service as Assistant General Secretary, 1917-28, and Editor of *The Delta*, 1921-28, saw the administrative development of the General Offices. "The gifted Rider" placed *The Delta* in the first rank of Fraternity publications.

Harry A. Rider, Delta Zeta, Western Reserve, enjoyed the longest period of service with the Fraternity of any official since the organization of the General Offices in 1915. Rider was assistant general secretary from 1917 to 1928, having been editor of *The Delta* from 1921 to 1928. He served as assistant general secretary during the entire period of both General Secretary Edwin W. Dunlavy and General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams' administrations in the General Offices. Under the editorship of Harry Rider *The Delta* definitely took a place of first rank among college fraternity magazines. He established the feature departments in *The Delta,* and displayed a rare taste in the make-up and general appearance of the Fraternity's quarterly publication. A capable, scholarly and inspired mind was indelibly impressed on the life of the Fraternity through his editorship of *The Delta.* Sigma Nu enjoyed a more dignified position through his portrayal of its ideals, life and work in the pages of *The Delta.*

CHARLES EDWARD THOMAS MADE EDITOR

On February 1, 1929, Charles Edward Thomas, Beta Omicron, Sewanee, succeeded the gifted Rider as editor of *The Delta* and assistant general secretary. Coming to the General Offices from the English faculty of Syracuse University, Thomas had been graduated from Porter Military Academy in 1923, and from the University of the South, Sewanee, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1927. A

South Carolinian, he was born at Ridgeway, November 17, 1903. He had served as commander of Beta Omicron Chapter in his senior year at Sewanee, and headed the building committee which erected Beta Omicron's lodge in 1927. The financing and construction of the stone lodge was directly under his supervision, bringing him into contact with the High Council and General Offices. He had attended the West Baden and Washington Grand Chapters, the only two since his initiation, thereby receiving the inspiration and broad fraternity contacts that gave him the scope of national fraternity vision. The year following his graduation, he was instructor in English at Sewanee, serving as resident preceptor to Beta Omicron. Leaving Sewanee for Syracuse prevented his accepting the inspectorship of the new Twentieth Division, made up of Tennessee and Kentucky, when it was offered him by the High Council through General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams in the spring of 1928.



CHARLES EDWARD THOMAS, BETA OMICRON
Instructor in English at Sewanee and Syracuse University, was elected Editor of *The Delta* and Assistant General Secretary in 1929, succeeding Harry Rider.

The March, 1929, *Delta* was the first issued under the editorship of Thomas. His initial contribution as editor was a tribute to Sigma Nu's heritage on the occasion of the Fraternity's Sixtieth Anniversary in which he wrote: "On the evening of January 1, 1869, our illustrious founders met beside the rock, later to become famous in Sigma Nu history, and under the light of the stars, pledged themselves to stand together and combat the forces that were making for strife, discontent, and dissatisfaction. Out of this 'maelstrom of human emotions came another great Brotherhood,' out of this local club, for our founders little thought it would ever be more, has come our great national organization with its ninety-four active chapters covering the entire country, with its 23,000 knights not only in every state, but all over the civilized world, with its chain of brotherhood linking the hearts and souls of men in every sphere of human endeavor with no thought of class or position, 'but esteeming manhood above badge or rank.'

"Let us in commemorating this date recall the spirit which caused Hopkins, Quarles and Riley to found the Legion of Honor, and in paying grateful tribute to them renew in ourselves those forces of Love, Honor, and Truth that have made our fraternity a power in moulding the lives and thoughts of so many college men, forces motivating great deeds, noble acts, and honorable and uplifting thoughts."

CHICAGO GRAND CHAPTER, 1929

The Twenty-fourth Grand Chapter met at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, December 27 to 30, 1929. This Grand Chapter stands out as a business session. Due to extreme cold weather and snows that had all but blocked city streets, the large part of the convention was limited to the confines of the hotel. Fortunate was the convention that this was one of the most ade-



EDGEWATER BEACH HOTEL, CHICAGO
Where the Twenty-fourth Grand Chapter convened in December, 1929.

quately arranged all-year hotels in the country. The only affair outside the hotel was an inspiring Sunday morning service in the Gothic Chapel of the University of Chicago, where Grand Chaplain Joseph L. Stout preached a moving sermon in one of the finest college chapels in the country.

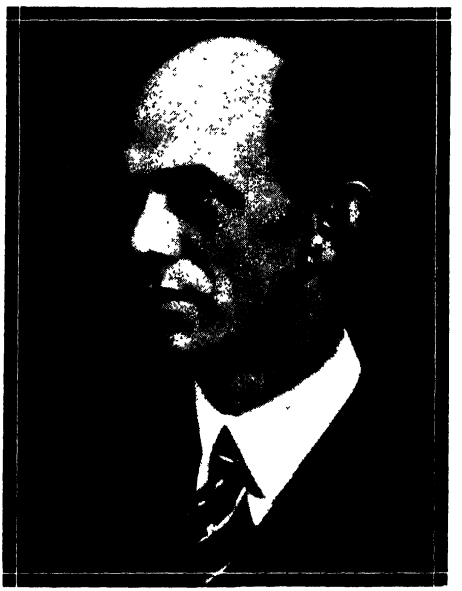
REPORT OF THE LAW COMMISSION

The report of the Law Commission, created by the Twenty-third Grand Chapter, consumed the major portion of the time of the Chicago Grand Chapter. With Regent Orville M. Barnett presiding, the report was made by Past Regent Borden Burr, a member of the Commission. The Commission had held two meetings, one in the winter of 1928 and another in the summer of 1929. The report had been printed and circulated among chapters and members of the Grand Chapter.

Three major changes were made in the Law of the Fraternity as a result of the Commission's report. The titles and terms of office of members of the High Council were changed. The Regent's position was not changed, as he continued to be known by that title and elected for a two-year term by each biennial Grand Chapter. The new office of Second Vice Regent was created and he was to be elected by each biennial Grand Chapter to serve for two years, after which he would automatically succeed to the office of First Vice Regent to serve for a period of two years. The Grand Treasurer, heretofore serving for a two-year term, was to be elected by each third biennial Grand Chapter to serve for six years. The only office dropped by this change was that of Grand Counselor, and the new office of Second Vice Regent was created.

The matter of perhaps greatest importance considered by the Law Commission and adopted by the Chicago Grand Chapter was the institution of a Board of Trustees for the Permanent Endowment Fund of the Fraternity. A Board of seven men was constituted, composed of the four members of the High Council and three alumni elected by the High Council to serve six-year terms. This Board of Trustees was granted legal title to the funds and other properties of the Fraternity to be held in trust by them for the Sigma Nu Fraternity.

The third important legal change had to do with the granting of charters for new chapters. The change in the Law provided that a petition shall be first considered by the High Council for the purpose of determining the financial and educational qualifications of the institution in which the petitioning group is located; and the personnel of the group. If there be not more than one negative vote of the High Council, the petition shall be submitted to the collegiate chapters within the division in which the proposed chapter is to be located. With the unanimous approval of the chapters of the division, the petition shall then be referred back to the High Council for final approval, before being presented to the next convening Grand Chapter for final vote. If the petition receives a three-fourths favorable vote, the charter shall be granted.

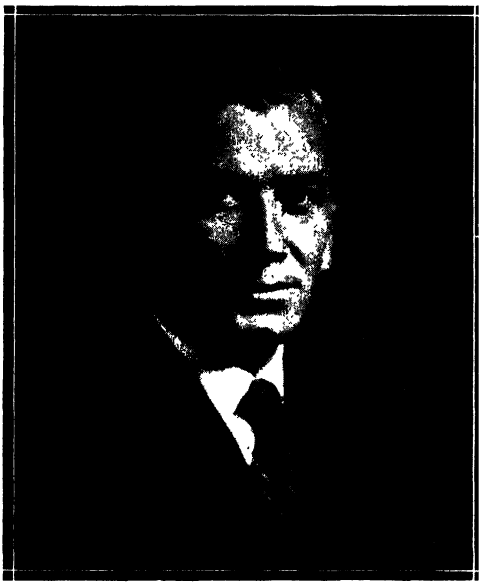


ROY L. BOVARD, DELTA DELTA
Indefatigable Fraternity enthusiast and worker, Grand Counselor, 1927-29, elected Regent at the Chicago Grand Chapter in 1929.

The Chicago Grand Chapter elevated Grand Counselor Roy L. Bovard, Delta Delta, Penn State, to the regency. Otto K. Grau, Beta Chi, Stanford, was elected first vice regent, Malcolm C. Sewell, Beta Kappa, Kansas State, second vice regent, and Grand Treasurer John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-

Beta Pi, Missouri Valley-Chicago, who had served in that capacity for two two-year terms, was elected for the new six-year term. Grand Historian John C. Scott, Beta Zeta, Purdue, and Grand Chaplain Joseph L. Stout, Beta Beta, DePauw, were re-elected.

The biennium in which Regent Roy Bovard headed the High Council was marked by an increase in the number of members completing their life subscriptions to the Permanent Endowment Fund, and a steady growth in the fiscal strength of the Fraternity. Perhaps no Regent carried on so great a correspondence as did Regent Bovard during his two years in this office. Long devoted to Sigma Nu, this bachelor brother's election to the regency offered him an opportunity to instill his spirit of enthusiasm and loyalty into chapters and members of Sigma Nu throughout the land. This biennium marked the entrance of Malcolm C. Sewell, as First Vice Regent, into the national councils of the Fraternity, an influence which was to be broadened with his subsequent appointment as General Secretary.



MALCOLM C. SEWELL, BETA KAPPA
Kansas State alumnus and professor, outstanding inspector, elected Second Vice Regent at the Chicago Grand Chapter in 1929. The first to hold this new office, created at that time, replacing the position of Grand Counselor.

FIRST BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Following the Chicago Grand Chapter's creation of the Fraternity's Board of Trustees, the High Council elected as the three members to serve on the Board with themselves, Past Regent George Arthur Smith, Beta Zeta, Purdue, the "Father of the Permanent Endowment Fund," eastern insurance official; Past Regent Borden Burr, Theta-Lambda, Alabama-Washington and Lee, Birmingham attorney; and Merrill C. Adams, Gamma Gamma, Albion, vice-president and secretary of the Union Trust Company of Detroit.

An interesting feature of this Grand Chapter was the number of relatives of high officials of the Fraternity in attendance. Greenfield Quarles Polk, grandson of Founder Quarles, was the delegate of Sigma Chapter, Vanderbilt; George W. Robinson, nephew of Past Regent Isaac P. Robinson, "Father of the First Convention," was Beta Phi's delegate from Tulane; Past Grand Counselor Robert C. Bannister, Beta Mu, Iowa, and his son Robert J. Bannister, Beta Mu, were in attendance, as were Salmon C. Myers, Gamma Nu, Michigan, and William C. Palmour, Kappa, North Georgia, sons of Past Regents Myers and Palmour, respectively. A high point of the entertainment of the Twenty-fourth

Grand Chapter was the appearance of Charles "Chic" Sale, Gamma Mu, Illinois, popular Sigma Nu vaudeville and movie star, at the Grand Chapter banquet, where he gave several of his most popular impersonations. This was Past Grand Recorder Clarence E. Woods' twentieth Grand Chapter, a new record of attendance.

It will be as a business meeting that the Chicago Grand Chapter will hold its place among Fraternity conventions. The delegates worked long and hard in considering the report of the Law Commission, and the work of the men serving on this important commission will be far-reaching in stabilizing the management and fiscal affairs of the Fraternity.

CHAPTER XXXII

Period of Economic Stress Turns Fraternity to More Constructive Aims

Lombard College Merges with Knox

THE world-wide economic depression, which began in October, 1929, had its effect in the college and fraternity world. It was perhaps first seen in Sigma Nu with the merger of Lombard College at Galesburg, Illinois, with its neighboring institution, Knox College, July 1, 1930, marking the end of the identity of Lombard College.

Lombard had been the home of Delta Theta Chapter since 1891, during which time many loyal men had been brought into Sigma Nu. Shortly before this time the chapter had built a permanent and pleasing chapter house just across the street from the Lombard campus.

Lombard had been the home of chapters of Delta Tau Delta, Phi Delta Theta, Pi Kappa Alpha and Theta Nu Epsilon. Delta Tau Delta's chapter had become inactive and only Phi Delta Theta antedated Sigma Nu at Lombard. At the time of the merger of the two Galesburg colleges the entire membership of Delta Theta Chapter entered Knox. Sigma Nu was invited to bring its charter to the new campus, which fortunately did not even necessitate the immediate change from the new house.

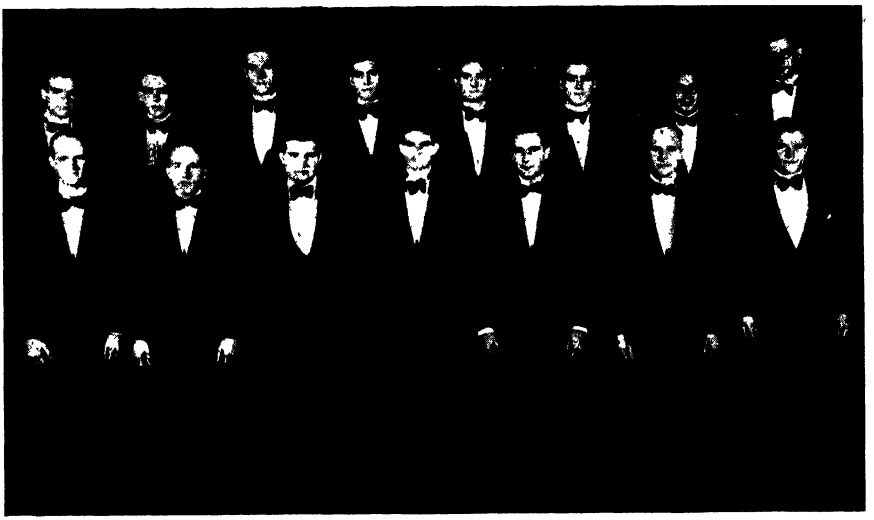
Knox College was the product of a dream characteristic of the day when pioneers were pressing westward. Led by the Reverend George Washington Gale of New York, a group of men and women in the country about Utica had decided to establish a town, a college and a church somewhere in the western unknown. The Knox College charter was signed February 15, 1837. Made up of people deeply conscious of their social obligations, the town of Galesburg and Knox College became early centers of culture and teaching. In 1857 one of the now-famed debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas was held on the Knox campus. The college has contributed many prominent men to the country, and holds a high place among the liberal arts colleges of the middle west.

When Delta Theta Chapter moved to Knox in the fall of 1930, Sigma Nu became the seventh national fraternity on that campus. Beta Theta Pi entered Knox in 1855, Phi Gamma Delta, 1867; Phi Delta Theta, 1871; Tau Kappa Epsilon, 1912; Lambda Chi Alpha, 1915; and Phi Sigma Kappa, 1928. Delta Theta quickly took its place as a Knox fraternity, having long enjoyed great local prestige in Galesburg with prominent and active alumni in the town and undisputed strength on the Lombard campus.

FOUNDING OF TWO LOS ANGELES CHAPTERS

Sigma Nu's first joint installation of two chapters occurred November 6 and 7, 1930, when Epsilon Omicron Chapter was installed at the University of Southern California and Epsilon Pi Chapter at the University of California at Los Angeles.

The University of Southern California was founded in 1880, when Los Angeles was a town of 11,000 souls. In 1930 Los Angeles was a city of well over a million people, and the University had more than fifteen thousand students availing themselves of its educational opportunities. Although of a religious background, the institution is non-sectarian, governed by a self-per-



CHARTER MEMBERS OF EPSILON OMICRON CHAPTER, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Top row, left to right: Robert Meek, William Grigsby, Jr., Hudson Martin, Charles Nelson, Maurice Owens, W. E. Dewar, Harris Meyer, Ernest Payne.
Bottom row: Ewing Lingle, Elmer Franzen, James McCulley, Jr., Milo Barber, Paul Zander, Thomas Mills, Harry Kufus.

petuating Board of Trustees. It is a university that has definitely chosen to live close to the heart of a great city, immersed in its problems, known by its people, sharing in the rush and driving energy of its life, and educating its youth. The figure that best typifies the University of Southern California is that of its bronzed young athlete, the Trojan Warrior, strong of sinew and muscle, graceful in poise, superb of figure, eager for the fray. The college of liberal arts is the heart of the university, the function of which is "to introduce young people to what has been called 'The Great Tradition', including the cultural and liberal arts and sciences whose possession and cultivation are the distinguishing marks of modern civilization." Southern California is a great urban university with a strong undergraduate college and numerous graduate schools.

Theta Sigma Nu was organized at the University of Southern California in 1921 by two engineering students, Challen F. Landers and Marson S. Robb.

The club was definitely a social organization of engineering students for two years, when in 1923 it was decided to become general, taking students from other colleges of the university. At this time it was felt that they were ready to petition a national fraternity. A committee of the local met with alumni of numerous national fraternities, and in that way Sigma Nu was selected. The minutes of the club show that it was unanimously agreed that Theta Sigma Nu would do "ourselves as well as our University an incalculable amount of good if we are successful in bringing this Fraternity (Sigma Nu) to our campus." In April, 1923, the petition was presented Sigma Nu.

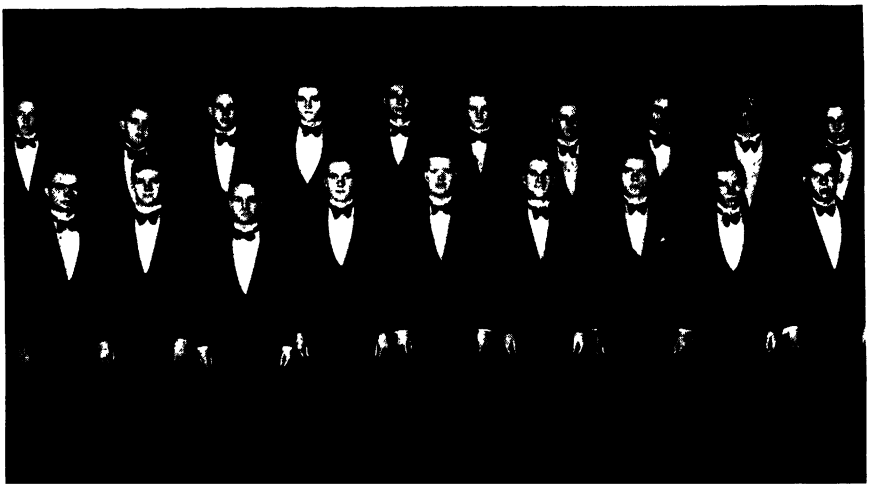
The University of California at Los Angeles is a state university with the same position in the southern half of the state that the University of California at Berkeley enjoys in the upper part of California. The government of the two universities is entrusted to the same Board of Regents of the University of California. U. C. L. A., as the southern institution has come to be known, is an outgrowth of the Los Angeles State Normal School created in 1881 by the California legislature. Two locations were maintained in the downtown section of Los Angeles at different times before the present University came into being in 1919. A new campus of 384 acres in the city of Los Angeles, west of Beverly Hills, was acquired in 1925. In a bond issue the same year $3,000,000 was allocated to buildings on this new site. These buildings were first occupied in September, 1929, on a beautiful new campus. The enrollment of the University has constantly grown in the past few years. In 1930 more than five thousand students were enrolled, over two thousand of whom were men. The state has been liberal in its grants for maintenance and buildings.

Alpha Delta Tau was organized at U. C. L. A. in 1921, definitely as a local club. During the next three years, with other local groups on the campus petitioning national fraternities, it was decided to consider such affiliation. In 1925, due to a member of the group being the son of a member of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity, support was lent a petition to this organization by the Los Angeles alumni of Delta Upsilon. Just when the Alpha Delta Tau petition was presented Delta Upsilon it was discovered that another local group at U. C. L. A. was also petitioning them. As a result both petitions were tabled, and early in 1927, Alpha Delta Tau withdrew its petition to Delta Upsilon. Knowing of the Theta Sigma Nu petition from Southern California being before Sigma Nu, it was thought doubtful whether it would be wise to petition Sigma Nu, although this was the choice of Alpha Delta Tau. The Los Angeles alumni of Sigma Nu encouraged it, however, and the petition came to Sigma Nu.

After a hard struggle to win support of nearby chapters, in June, 1929, Inspector Otto K. Grau, Beta Chi, Stanford, reported the favorable action of the Seventeenth Division on the petitions of Theta Sigma Nu at Southern California and Alpha Delta Tau at the University of California at Los Angeles. General Secretary Vernon M. Williams visited the petitioning groups during the fall. The High Council voted favorably on them later in the year. Before the college year closed both petitions received the approval of the chapters

of the Fraternity. And a long and persistent effort was crowned for these local clubs in Los Angeles' two great universities.

In the meantime Inspector Grau had become the Fraternity's vice regent. The High Council appointed him to take charge of the installations. Charles W. Heyer, Beta Psi, California, had succeeded Grau as inspector. Special Inspector William F. Dugan, Gamma Eta, Colorado Mines, was appointed by Vice Regent Grau to handle local plans. This double installation of Sigma Nu's twin chapters was made a most inspiring and thrilling fraternity affair through the efforts of "Bill" Dugan and his committees. The initiation team consisted of Hubert W. Swender, Gamma Omicron, Washington-St. Louis;



CHARTER MEMBERS OF EPSILON PI CHAPTER,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES

Top row, left to right: William Rowley, Ralph Koontz, Wilbur Brubaker, William Gragg, Charles Wilber, Robert Ruggles, Dave McKay, Charles Hinchey, Carl Brown, Everett Plumer. Bottom row: Holmes Miller, Thomas Donoghue, William Biersach, Jr., James Rhodes, Mitchenor Akins, Mart Bushnell, Carl Fossett, Howard Plumer, Gordon Allen.

Lyman C. Rafferty, Beta Rho, Pennsylvania; Keeling G. Pulliam, Gamma Iota, Kentucky; Marc N. Goodnow, Gamma Rho, Chicago, and Dugan. The lodge room of the Elks Club in Los Angeles was the scene of the initiation ceremonies where ninety-six men were made Sigma Nus in one of the Fraternity's most impressive ceremonies. Epsilon Omicron was installed with fifteen charter members and forty-four alumni being initiated, and Epsilon Pi with nineteen charter members and eighteen alumni. General Secretary Vernon M. Williams in describing this initiation in the March, 1931, *Delta* wrote, "So magnificent and inspiring was the service that at first I was envious of the initiates, but later I was happy with them as they began fraternal pilgrimages which will continue through their lives. 'Bill' Dugan should be justly proud of the entire program. The chaplain appeared to be working with divine guidance, Swender's description of the badge was beyond comparison, Pulliam's past military and ceremonial training stood him in good stead in working out and directing

the mechanics of all four services in matchless fashion. The deeply stirring organ playing by Wesley B. Tourtelotte, Beta Rho, Pennsylvania, and the singing of J. Clark Marshall, Gamma Tau, Minnesota, will never be forgotten. All these combined with the receptive attitude of the candidates as they listened to the historical discourse by Ferd Heywood, Beta Nu, Ohio State, served to give the ritual its full significance. One felt the guiding spirit of the immortal Bennett."

At the installation banquet more than fifty chapters were represented, giving this as national an air as any Sigma Nu gathering other than a Grand Chapter, and emphasizing the value of active collegiate chapters in a city that draws alumni from so many centers. In addition to Vice Regent Grau, General Secretary Vernon M. Williams, Inspectors Heyer and Dugan, Past Grand Treasurer Ferd Heywood, many other prominent and loyal alumni were present. Richard Maury Sims, Delta, South Carolina, prominent San Francisco banker and early Delta Chapter initiate, was one of the banquet speakers. Guy M. Johnson, Gamma Nu, Michigan, was toastmaster.

Epsilon Omicron and Epsilon Pi Chapters came into the Fraternity with every possible stimulus, and their success has been gratifying. Both chapters are bringing splendid men into the Fraternity, having early felt the tradition of long fraternity ties through sons of alumni that have been initiated into the new chapters. Epsilon Omicron quickly attained national prominence through initiating, in its second year, H. Ellsworth Vines, Jr., who was the world's amateur tennis champion in 1932, and later professional champion. In 1935 the Southern California chapter initiated Loren Grey, son of Novelist Zane Grey, Beta Rho, Pennsylvania. Epsilon Pi has already brought into the Fraternity four sons of alumni, T. Beverley Keim, III, David D. Smith, Charles W. Doud, and Robert C. Maze.

BIGWIN GRAND CHAPTER, 1931

The Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter convened August 28, 1931, continuing through four days, at Bigwin Inn on the Lake of Bays in Ontario. This was the Fraternity's first Canadian Grand Chapter and the first held outside the United States. It was also the first summer Grand Chapter since the Seventeenth Grand Chapter met in Denver in 1915. The Bigwin Grand Chapter has been described as "a corporate communion", and it was a splendid opportunity for renewing fraternal bonds and making close fraternity contacts. The long, slow, but altogether delightful boat, and leisurely train trip from Toronto to Huntsville and Bigwin, offered ample time for making acquaintances before reaching the scene of the convention. The summer hotel was comfortable enough and at the same time thoroughly in keeping with the isolated and natural setting on the shore of Canada's lake country.

Legislation passed at the Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter, which was presided over by Regent Roy L. Bovard, Delta Delta, Pennsylvania State College, had to do largely with clearing up ambiguities that existed after the myriad changes in the Law made at the Chicago Grand Chapter in 1929.

A great many matters adopted at Chicago were by amendments from the

floor of the convention, made in such a way as to raise some conflicts in the Law as it previously existed, and as it was adopted by that Grand Chapter; thus many of these changes took care of conflicts in the Law as it then stood. The Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter at Bigwin reaffirmed the creation of and powers granted to the Board of Trustees of the Fraternity as enacted by the Twenty-fourth Grand Chapter.

The constantly recurring alteration in the Fraternity's means of granting new charters was again amended. This time in addition to the existing requirements of: first, approval of the institution by the High Council; second, the unanimous approval of the chapters in the division; thirdly, the High Council's



BIGWIN INN, LAKE OF BAYS, ONTARIO, CANADA
Meeting place of the Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter in 1931, and the first to be held outside the United States.

approval of the petitioning group, followed by presentation of the petition to the Grand Chapter, where it must receive a three-fourths favorable vote; was added a referendum vote of all chapters, after the approval of the Grand Chapter, before the petition is granted. This change did not affect two petitions that were before the Bigwin Grand Chapter, however.

A petition from the Tharsos Club of Missouri Valley College for the revival of Beta Gamma Chapter was granted; and a petition from the Goblins Club of Duke University for a charter was likewise approved. Four members of the Tharsos Club were presented to the Grand Chapter and three members of the Goblins Club.

The presence of Dr. Charles J. Turck, Beta Phi-Delta Gamma, Tulane-Columbia, President of Centre College, and his striking address at the Grand Chapter banquet, added greatly to the inspirational value of this convention



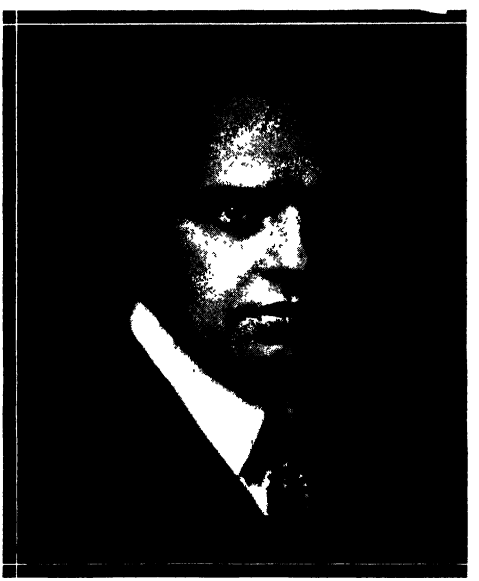
CHARLES J. TURCK, BETA PHI-DELTA GAMMA
Alumnus of Tulane and Columbia, president of Centre College, who spoke at the Bigwin and Mackinac Grand Chapters as a member of the Committee on the State of the Fraternity.

held in so stimulating and intimate a spot. A model initiation ceremony was one of the features of the Grand Chapter under the direction of Inspector Edward H. Hashinger. Seven past regents of the Fraternity were in attendance, Albert H. Wilson, Borden Burr, Walter E. Myers, George Arthur Smith, John M. Roberts, Orville M. Barnett and Roy L. Bovard, the latter retiring as regent at this Grand Chapter. Six Sigma Nu fathers and sons were also at this convention of their Fraternity. Bigwin offered a close communing of kindred souls.

MALCOLM C. SEWELL SUCCEEDS VERNON WILLIAMS AS GENERAL SECRETARY

General Secretary Vernon M. Williams having resigned as administrative secretary of the Fraternity in the spring of 1931, the High Council appointed Second Vice Regent Malcolm C. Sewell, Beta Kappa, Kansas State, general secretary. Inspector Frank L. Yates, Gamma Pi-Delta Pi, West Virginia-George Washington, was appointed second vice regent, to fill General Secretary-elect Malcolm Sewell's place.

The Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter elected Otto K. Grau, Beta Chi, Stanford, regent. This was Beta Chi's second alumnus to hold the Fraternity's highest elective position, the other being Regent Grau's brother-in-law and law partner, Francis V. Keesling. Second Vice Regent Yates automatically became first vice regent; Inspector LeRoy E. Kimball, Gamma Gamma, Albion, was second vice regent. Grand

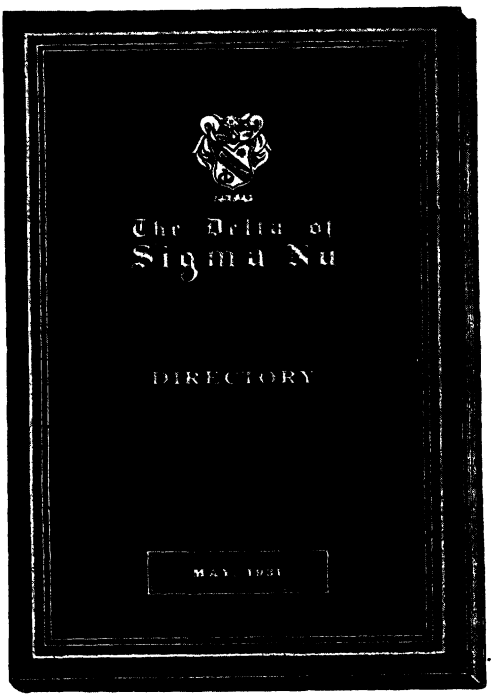


OTTO K. GRAU, BETA CHI
Stanford alumnus, former west coast inspector, Vice Regent, 1929-31, elected Regent at Bigwin Grand Chapter.

Historian John C. Scott, Beta Zeta, Purdue, and Grand Chaplain Joseph L. Stout, Beta Beta, DePauw, were re-elected.

The regency of Otto K. Grau demanded an unusual amount of this devoted brother's time, because of his location in San Francisco. He crossed the continent four times as regent to attend meetings of the High Council and Grand Chapter during the two years that he filled this position. It was under his term that the past regent's badge, a copy of the Founder's badge, was suggested as a recognition of the services of those alumni who had served Sigma Nu in its highest elective office.

The resignation of General Secretary Vernon M. Williams brought to a close a service of three years with the national Fraternity, years filled with active administrative duties and responsibilities. Vernon Williams resumed college work which he had left to enter the Fraternity office, accepting a connection with Stevens College, Columbia, Missouri. Travelling extensively as general secretary, Vernon Williams early visited all the chapters of the Fraternity, making contacts with college and university officials on every campus. Having served the University of Minnesota as assistant dean of student affairs, he was especially interested in the personnel problems of college work and their relation to the Fraternity. He attended the annual meetings of Deans of Men and brought much credit to the Fraternity in his addresses before this group on several occasions. The final achievement of his administration as general secretary was the publication of the May, 1931, issue of *The Delta* as a Directory Number, the credit of which is due him. This was the first time that the Fraternity had published a directory in that manner, thereby giving it much wider distribution than any of the six previous directories or catalogs had enjoyed. A forceful presence, a splendid speaker and an engaging personality marked General Secretary Vernon Williams and characterized his contribution to the Fraternity.



DIRECTORY ISSUE OF *THE DELTA*
The Fraternity's seventh directory, first to be published as an issue of *The Delta*. Listed 28,941 members and 96 active collegiate chapters.

General Secretary Malcolm Cameron Sewell, Beta Kappa, Kansas State, did not assume full duties as administrative officer of the Fraternity until September 1, 1931, following the Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter. In introducing the

General Secretary-elect at the Bigwin Grand Chapter banquet, retiring General Secretary Vernon Williams said, "I am passing along the torch to a man who comes nearer to measuring up to what I call a true Sigma Nu than any I have had the privilege of knowing well in our Fraternity . . . Malcolm Sewell is an eminent scholar, a man of fearless integrity and spotless character, and it is with the keenest enjoyment that I introduce him to you as your General Secretary-elect . . ."

Malcolm Sewell was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1888, of English-Scotch lineage through Canadian adoption. He spent his boyhood in Hastings, Nebraska, where he completed his high school education. He entered Kansas State College where he took his Bachelor of Science degree in 1912. Entering Ohio State University, he took a Master of Science degree in 1914, and among other scholastic honors garnered Sigma Xi. After some years of practical research and experimentation, he took his Doctor of Philosophy degree *magna cum laude* at the University of Chicago in 1922. Here he was again elected to Sigma Xi. Since that time he had been associated with the faculty of Kansas State College at Manhattan.



MALCOLM C. SEWELL, BETA KAPPA
Distinguished scholar, long-time inspector for Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska, Second Vice Regent, 1929-31, elected General Secretary in 1931 to succeed Vernon Williams.

Following his initiation into Beta Kappa Chapter at Kansas State he first served his chapter as adviser. Next as inspector of the Twelfth Division, he served the chapters of Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska. In 1929 at the Twenty-fourth Grand Chapter in Chicago he was made second vice regent. A man of high ideals and sound judgment, he was well qualified by training and experience for the position he entered in 1931 as Sigma Nu's chief administrative officer.

Following the Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter in 1931, the High Council procured Past Grand Counselor and Past General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams, Gamma Kappa, Colorado, to recodify the Law of the Fraternity, incorporating the many changes and additions following the work of the Law Commission. This was published as the twelfth edition of The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, including the constitution, statutes and trial code.

INSTALLATION OF GAMMA CHAPTER AT DUKE UNIVERSITY

On November 21, 1931, Gamma Chapter was installed at Duke University. The Bigwin Grand Chapter had approved the petition of the Goblins Club for a chapter at this new University in Durham, North Carolina, built around

Trinity College. Sixty years before this date there had been an effort made by Alpha Chapter members to establish Gamma Chapter in the so-called Bailey Law School in Asheville, North Carolina. Only one man was initiated and Gamma Chapter had never functioned. The Law School was only the attorney's office in which some young men were reading law in 1871 in Asheville.

Duke University came into being after the tobacco and hydro-electric magnate, James B. Duke, of Durham, created the Duke Foundation in 1924 with an eventual fund of $80,000,000 available for educational and charitable purposes. The trustees of Trinity College accepted the offer of the Duke Foundation to build the new university bearing the donor's name around the liberal arts college of Trinity. This college had its beginning in 1838 when a local school was established in Randolph County, North Carolina. In 1840 it became Union Institute, finally changing its name to the Normal College and granting the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1852. Seven years later it came under the control of the Methodist Episcopal Church, taking the name Trinity College, suffering the fate of Southern schools during the War between the States. In 1891 Trinity was moved to Durham, becoming one of the first colleges in the South to accept women students in all departments in 1897. It rapidly became one of the leading liberal arts colleges in the South, winning support from the Duke wealth from that period. Upon the death of Mr. Duke in 1925 the college fell heir to large funds for erecting new buildings. The old Trinity campus was made the women's college with many fine additions, and the men's campus and graduate schools of law, medicine and theology were moved to the new campus southwest of old Trinity. Before Sigma Nu entered Duke University more than six million dollars had been spent on the old campus and twenty millions on the new campus for buildings alone, giving it one of the finest college quadrangles in the world.

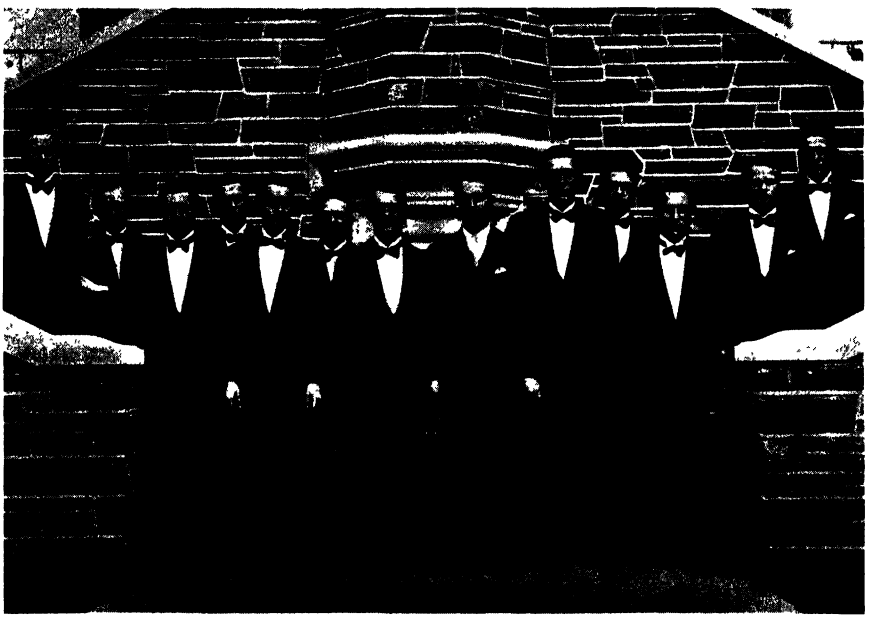
In 1928 with the rapid expansion and growth of Duke University, three Sigma Nus, who were enrolled in the University, felt that a chapter of their Fraternity should be established there. J. William Braswell, Iota, Howard, Phil H. Crawford, Jr., Beta Tau, North Carolina State, and Harry P. Taylor, Delta Lambda, Brown, are due the credit for laying the foundations for Gamma Chapter. The new Duke University was built on the English college idea of having all men live in small dormitory units and eating together in the college commons or Union Building. The first step toward organizing the Goblins Club was the selection by these three Sigma Nus of a table in the commons. They invited desirable students to join them and soon had the nucleus of an organization. On January 14, 1929, the first formal meeting was held and the name "Goblins" selected February 4. They met after that in the Goblins' Den and the pledges were known as Hob-goblins. A hexagon shaped pledge button with a gray goblin background became the only insignia, and the Goblins Club was now officially recognized on the Duke campus. Dr. George Chiles, Beta, Virginia, of the Medical School faculty, became adviser to the Goblins. The next college year brought two more Sigma Nus to the University, Andrew B. Bickett, Gamma Theta, Cornell, and Charles L. Major, Epsilon Iota, William and Mary, who became actively associated with the petitioners.

With another college year, the Goblins had one of their own original men back as a Sigma Nu. Ben Powell, who had done graduate work at Columbia University the previous year, had become a member of Delta Gamma Chapter. Manning Eagles, Iota, Howard, also entered Duke and the Club in 1930.

Chi Phi entered Trinity College in 1871 but continued there only eight years. Other fraternities at Duke when Gamma Chapter was installed were Alpha Tau Omega 1872, Kappa Sigma 1873, Phi Delta Theta 1878, Kappa Alpha (S) 1901, Pi Kappa Alpha 1901, Sigma Phi Epsilon 1909, Sigma Chi 1912, Pi Kappa Phi 1915, Delta Sigma Phi 1920, Lambda Chi Alpha 1924, Delta Tau Delta 1928, Phi Sigma Delta 1929, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon 1931.

The petition of the Goblins Club was submitted by Inspector John C. B. Smith, Delta, South Carolina, to the chapters of the Eighteenth Division and favorably acted upon. Editor of *The Delta* and Assistant General Secretary Charles Edward Thomas visited the Goblins Club in the spring of 1930, after which the High Council voted approval of the petition. When the petition was approved and the charter granted at the Bigwin Grand Chapter, three members of the Club were present, Donald F. Marion, and William F. Reed, who later became charter members of Gamma Chapter, and Benjamin E. Powell, Delta Gamma, who became first adviser to the chapter.

The High Council appointed Thomas H. Wright, Beta Omicron, Sewanee, Inspector for Georgia, who was then located in Chapel Hill, in charge of the



CHARTER MEMBERS OF GAMMA CHAPTER AT DUKE UNIVERSITY

Left to right: William F. Reed, Carey Maxwell, Donald W. Miller, Phillip L. Franklin, Henry P. Richard, Max Clyde Wilson, Claire T. Crenshaw, Adviser Benjamin E. Powell, Delta Gamma, Donald F. Marion, Richard A. Broberg, John C. Long, Southgate Martin, Ames W. Williams.

installation. The initiation team was composed of active members of Psi and Beta Tau Chapters. Ten charter members and two alumni were initiated into Gamma Chapter on November 21, 1931.

The installation was preceded by a college ball given Friday evening in the Duke University Union with an imposing group of chaperones and dancers. In addition to the President and Dean of the College and prominent alumni of the Fraternity, Mrs. Benjamin Duke, widow of one of the University's benefactors attended the dance. Following the formal initiation which took place Saturday morning, November 21, in a well arranged room of the Union building, the new chapter and its guests attended the North Carolina-Duke football game in which neither team scored, where the officials of the Fraternity and prominent alumni were guests of President Few in his box. The installation banquet that evening in one of the imposing dining rooms of the Union Building brought together a strong array of alumni and collegiate members of the Fraternity from over the Carolinas.

Editor of *The Delta* Thomas acted as toastmaster. General Secretary Sewell presented the charter to Gamma Chapter's first commander, Claire T. Crenshaw. Among the speakers were Walter Murphy, Psi, the founder of Sigma Nu at the University of North Carolina, former Lieutenant-Governor J. Elmer Long, Psi, and Grand Treasurer John M. Roberts. Lewis C. Burwell, Beta Omicron, Sewanee, sang *The White Star of Sigma Nu.* An inspiring feature of the installation ceremonies was a Sunday morning service in the University chapel at which the Reverend Thomas H. Wright, Beta Omicron, was the preacher. Gamma Chapter came into this strong Sigma Nu state under most propitious circumstances with the enthusiastic support of the three old Carolina chapters. An outstanding group of charter members and substantial young alumni assured the new chapter's success, which the years are justifying.

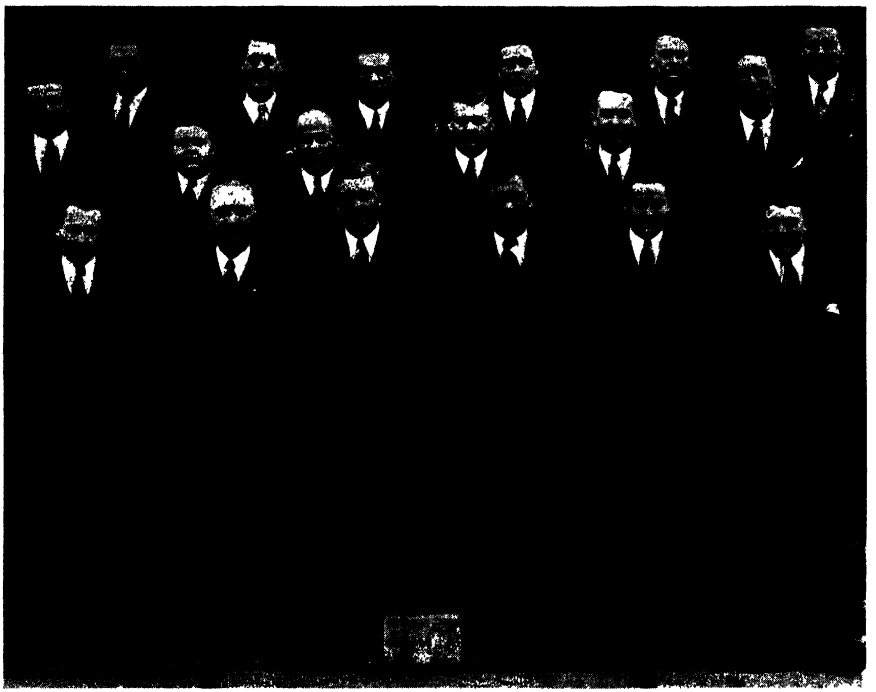
REVIVAL OF BETA GAMMA CHAPTER AT MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE

The Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter's approval of the Tharsos Club at Missouri Valley College, Marshall, Missouri, for the revival of Beta Gamma Chapter, inactive since a college antifraternity ruling had closed its life in 1896, was a revival of sentiment as well as the renewal of a chapter. The revival of this chapter, first installed forty years before, which took place on December 19, 1931, gave the Fraternity its ninety-eighth active collegiate chapter, the highest that Sigma Nu's active chapter roll had reached, and the sixth collegiate chapter in the State of Missouri, the largest number of chapters in any one state.

Missouri Valley is one of the finer liberal arts colleges of the mid-west, one of those small colleges which contributes to the field of arts, sciences and the professions out of all proportion to its size. The history of Missouri Valley is closely interwoven with that section of the country in which it is located, and that part of Missouri settled by men and women who had enjoyed broad cultural and social opportunities. The influence of the Presbyterian Church is evident in the personnel of the college's alumni and faculty, men of integrity and discrimination.

Inspired by the need of an organization to embody a fraternal spirit, the

Tharsos Club was organized on September 24, 1928. Its purpose was threefold: First, to serve the college; second, to serve the students; and third, to promote a fraternal association. The original group of fourteen men represented each of the four classes in the college and virtually every phase of campus activity, all leaders in their respective groups. Professor William I. Ferguson of the department of mathematics was the group's original adviser. A scholastic requirement for initiation was immediately adopted, social affairs were held and an active organization immediately functioned. It was but a



CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE REVIVED BETA GAMMA CHAPTER AT MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE

Left to right, front row: Cecil W. Lower, William I. Ferguson, Elston K. Smith, Jonathan E. Stevenson, J. Carson Dowell, T. Vern Hopkins.
Second row: G. Aubrey Jeter, Maurice L. Doughty, Harold J. Berning, J. Chapman Bradley, Glenn H. Scholle, John F. Elder.
Back row: Louis H. Ritterbusch, Robert B. Landrum, Elmer I. Braden, Harry T. Edwards, John R. Gosney, W. Davidson McDowell. (Not in picture: Robert L. Hoy and Charles L. Bacon.)

short time before the Tharsos Club was highly regarded by the faculty and student body. Its strength constantly increased and the group was representative of the leaders of the campus in 1931. There were no other national fraternities at Missouri Valley when Beta Gamma Chapter was revived.

The ceremonies for the revival of Sigma Nu at Missouri Valley opened with the pledging of the members of the Tharsos Club on Friday evening, December 18. These services were conducted on the same platform of the col-

lege chapel from which President Black had issued his decree abolishing fraternities from Missouri Valley College in 1896.

The Masonic Temple on the square in Marshall was the scene of the formal initiation of the twenty charter members of the revived Beta Gamma Chapter on December 19. A better place for the exemplification of the Fraternity's ritual could hardly have been found. On the walls of this lodge room hang the portraits of many men of Marshall and Saline County, some of whom have gone to their reward. Among the portraits is one, a past master of the lodge, the father of Past Regent Hamilton M. Dawes, Rho, Missouri, a native of Marshall. Another portrait is that of the father of William C. Gordon, Beta Gamma, Missouri Valley, who likewise had been a master of the local lodge. The elder Gordon's portrait is of especial interest because of the flowing beard, perhaps more than three feet long. The story is told that before the fall of the Confederacy, as a loyal wearer of the gray, he swore never to shave again if the South was defeated. He was true to his vow and as a citizen of Marshall became president of the bank of which his Sigma Nu son was president in 1931.

It was in this lodge room that Beta Gamma's life was renewed after inactivity of thirty-five years. The formal meeting was opened with four Beta Gamma alumni presiding, Past Regent John M. Roberts, William C. Gordon, John C. Worley and Andrew T. Alison. After bringing the meeting to order they turned their posts over to the initiation team which was to induct the members of the Tharsos Club into Sigma Nu. The team was composed of Inspector Edward H. Hashinger, Nu, Kansas; W. Prewitt Ewing, Beta Xi, William Jewell; Past Grand Recorder Grant W. Harrington, Nu; Read O. Phipps, Nu, and John L. Shouse, Jr., Beta Xi. The Fraternity's ritualistic robes, which had been adopted at the Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter, were used. Music was played during the ceremony, adding much to the impressiveness of the liturgy. Candle light gave the darkened lodge room the proper effect for developing the spirit of the initiation. The entire ceremony was an inspiring and thrilling occasion.

Following the formal initiation, the presentation of the gavel, which Beta Gamma had used thirty-five years before and which a late alumnus had preserved these many years, was made to the revived chapter by John M. Roberts. His story of the old gavel having been carefully preserved and finally on the death bed of the late brother, it was handed him to pass on to the chapter should it ever be revived, was movingly told. The Reverend John C. Worley, another Beta Gamma alumnus, who had journeyed from his home in Pasadena, California, to Marshall, to be present for the revival of his old chapter, presented the men of Beta Gamma of 1931 with a handsome saber from the Beta Gamma men of 1894. Brother Worley, a gifted speaker, pictured in vivid words the enduring principles of Sigma Nu. Inspector Hashinger presented the chapter with a handsome chest, which had been used in the initiation, for the safekeeping of its records.

Among the new initiates was William I. Ferguson, pledged to Beta Gamma Chapter in 1896, but not initiated before the college ruling forced the chap-

ter into inactivity. As a member of the college faculty, he had been adviser to the Tharsos Club and became the newly revived chapter's adviser. The first commander of the revived Beta Gamma was Elston K. Smith, who closed the formal meeting held in the old lodge room.

The installation banquet that evening in the dining room of Young Hall on the M. V. C. campus was presided over by the chapter's most active alumnus, Past Regent and Grand Treasurer John M. Roberts. General Secretary Sewell presented the revived chapter's charter to Cecil W. Lower, who had headed the petitioning group. Inspector Leland Hazard, Beta Xi-Rho, William Jewell-Missouri, served as general chairman for the installation. The principal address of the banquet was that given by former General Secretary Ernest Lee Williams on "Ideals of Sigma Nu". The banquet was closed with the remarks of Past Grand Recorder Grant W. Harrington, Nu, Kansas, who had signed Beta Gamma's first charter in 1891. In addition to these speakers, Editor of *The Delta* and Assistant General Secretary Charles Edward Thomas, also attended the installation, with a number of alumni from over Missouri and Kansas, and members of nearby active collegiate chapters.

CHAPTER ADVISER INCORPORATES PLEDGE MANUAL

The Chapter Adviser, largely an officers' manual which is issued each year by the General Fraternity, was made both a handbook for chapter officers and a pledge manual by General Secretary Sewell with the September, 1932, issue. Pointing out that "Membership in our Fraternity will result in a constructive influence toward intellectual and character development if our chapters carry out the precepts as taught in our Ritual, Declaration of Principles, and Creed," General Secretary Sewell divided the pledge manual section of *The Adviser* into fourteen lessons for pledge instruction.

SONGBOOK ISSUE OF *The Delta*

The December, 1932, *Delta* was a songbook issue, the Fraternity's third songbook and first to be published in this way. Like the directory issue of *The Delta* in May, 1931, this gave the songbook a far greater distribution than previous books had enjoyed.

A song contest had been held in 1931, during which a number of new Fraternity songs had been submitted. Rex A. Maupin, Beta Kappa, Kansas State, Hubert Conover, Gamma Rho, Chicago, and Editor of *The Delta* Thomas were the committee for this contest. The first prize was not awarded. Second prize went to Jack Lait, Jr., Beta Rho, Pennsylvania, for his song entitled *Knights;* third prize to Clayton R. Sauer, Beta Kappa, Kansas State, for *The Letter Song;* J. Russell Dolan, Delta Lambda, Brown, took fourth prize with the song, *To the Men of Sigma Nu;* fifth prize went to Edwin L. Steele, Rho, Missouri, for *Sigma Nu Drinking Song; Hymn of Grace,* by Eugene Gaughn, Gamma Psi, Syracuse, took sixth prize; and *Our Creed,* the composition of Earl L. Hodson, Delta Theta, Knox, took seventh prize.

The songbook issue of *The Delta* contained twenty-one Sigma Nu songs, including these six prize-winning songs and three other new songs by Rex Maupin,

not before published, in addition to the more popular songs of the Fraternity, such as *The White Star of Sigma Nu* and others which had not before appeared in a songbook. The Fraternity's first songbook was published in 1889 and the second in 1910. At that time the Fraternity had few original songs, so the demand for a songbook was urgent. The songbook issue of *The Delta* also had the words and music to ninety college and university songs, mostly alma mater songs or the most popular song of each of ninety colleges in which there was a Sigma Nu chapter.

One of the popular dance songs of 1931 was *Fraternity Blues*, the music by Kay Kyser and the words by Spencer Murphy, both alumni of Psi Chapter at the University of North Carolina. They had composed this college song when undergraduates at Chapel Hill in 1923. Hugh Harlan, Delta Eta, Nebraska, and Donald Warner, Gamma Sigma, Iowa State, composed and published *The White Rose of Sigma Nu* in 1934, a song which quickly became popular with dance orchestras and radio broadcasters throughout the country. It was officially introduced to the college world on October 6, 1934, in the Los Angeles Biltmore Bowl at a dance given by the Sigma Nu alumni of Los Angeles with Epsilon Omicron and Epsilon Pi Chapters. In 1934 the General Fraternity had orchestrations made of *The White Star of Sigma Nu* and *The Girl Who Wears the Five Armed Star* available for dance and broadcasting orchestras, immediately giving these popular songs a wider range than they had before experienced.

CHAPTER XXXIII

The Shrine of Sigma Nu

Fiftieth Anniversary of *The Delta*

THE March, 1933, issue of *The Delta* marked the fiftieth anniversary of John Alexander Howard's founding of the Fraternity's quarterly magazine. In April, 1883, when the first *Delta* was published at Dahlonega, Georgia, there were but three active chapters. The fiftieth anniversary issue listed ninety-eight active collegiate chapters. In this anniversary number Editor Thomas wrote, "It would seem that with the passing of fifty years the purposes and aims of *The Delta* have changed but little, although our position, like that of other fraternities, is quite unlike that of 1883.



CHARLES EDWARD THOMAS, BETA OMICRON
Editor of *The Delta* and Assistant General Secretary since 1929. As the eighth editor, he edited the Fiftieth Anniversary issue of Sigma Nu's quarterly publication, founded in 1883.

"Each of the seven editors has left his impress on *The Delta*. Howard gave it life; Harrington gave it scope; Woods gave it power; Sears gave it spiritual force; Scott gave an historical appreciation; Dunlavy gave it inspiration; and Rider gave it modernity. We inherited a well edited, adequately supported, strongly financed, carefully styled and interestingly presented publication. With this issue, *The Delta* completes its first fifty years and we enter our fifth as Editor. It is our hope to be able to continue to give to our members a conservative magazine, yet one that is conscious of its readers' interests, inspiring in its articles, instructive in its suggestions, accurate in its facts and appealing in its presentation."

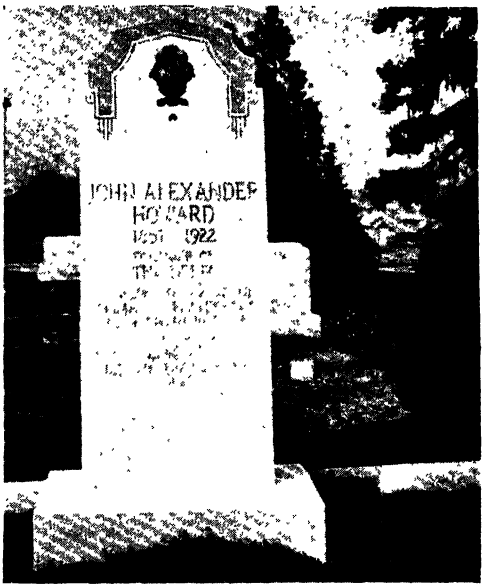
Howard Memorial Erected

The October, 1932, issue of *The Delta* announced the campaign to raise funds for a Memorial to the Founder of *The Delta*, John Alexander Howard, at his grave in Tallahassee, Florida. One dollar contributions were asked,

in order that a large number might take part in this memorial. A handsome pink Georgia marble monument was dedicated at the grave of Howard on March 10, 1935, in Oaklawn Cemetery, Tallahassee, in the presence of alumni, members of Epsilon Zeta Chapter at the University of Florida and Howard's family, including his widow and three sons and grandchildren. In paying tribute on this occasion to *The Delta's* Founder, Editor Thomas said in part, "In erecting this memorial at the grave of John Alexander Howard, the Sigma Nu Fraternity recognizes a pioneer, a man of wisdom, and one who sacrificed personal ambition for the cause he loved. . . .



J. EDWIN GOTT, ALPHA
The oldest living Sigma Nu, initiated 1869, former secretary of state for Maryland.



THE HOWARD MEMORIAL
Erected by the Fraternity in memory of John Alexander Howard, the Founder and first editor of *The Delta*, at his grave in Tallahassee, Florida.

"So as we unveil this graceful stone of Georgia marble over the last resting place of our beloved Howard here in Tallahassee, the Fraternity honors the man whose vision is being fulfilled, and whose sacrifice, we feel, was not in vain. For the cause he loved and for which he sacrificed now remembers and reverently loves him,"

The fiftieth anniversary of *The Delta* definitely marked Sigma Nu's having attained a venerable position, which demanded the respect that comes to an organization long conscious of high ideals and great principles. New features appearing in the March, 1933, anniversary issue emphasized this. "Fifty Years a Sigma Nu" featured seventy-one members of the Fraternity who had cherished Sigma Nu affiliation half a century, headed by that stalwart, J. Edwin Gott, former secretary of state for Maryland, initiated at the Virginia Military Institute in 1869, the fall

following the Fraternity's birth. An increasing number of sons and grandsons of members of the Fraternity were becoming Sigma Nus. Among double brothers many interesting family affiliations were being made more intimate through fraternal bonds. The seven Spann brothers of Beta Theta Chapter at Auburn held Sigma Nu's record in consanguinity.

CHAPTER ANNIVERSARIES

During this period chapters were celebrating anniversaries indicative of many years of strong influence on college campuses. Kappa Chapter at North Georgia College in Dahlonega, from whence *The Delta* had first come, held a splendid celebration of its fiftieth anniversary during commencement week of



THE SEVEN SPANN BROTHERS OF BETA THETA AT ALABAMA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, AUBURN

The Fraternity's leading double brothers. Front row, left to right: Marcellus S. Spann, Jerome A. Spann, Norman D. Spann, Phillip Hugh Spann. Back row: James F. Spann, Raymond E. Spann, George S. Spann.

the College in May, 1931. With Editor of *The Delta* Thomas representing the Fraternity, a large number of Kappa and Georgia alumni took part in the commemoration, including the chapter's Past Regent, Oscar Palmour.

Kappa's superb spirit that had brought so much to Sigma Nu was soon to be snuffed out, for in reorganizing the State University system in 1933, North Georgia was made a junior college and Kappa Chapter became inactive after fifty-two years of continuous and glorious history. Kappa had given the Fraternity four hundred and sixty-one brothers, among them the Founder of *The Delta*, a regent, four vice regents, a grand treasurer, a grand counselor, and a grand historian, in addition to many men who had brought honor and fame to the Fraternity through their lives and works.

The same year Eta Chapter at Mercer University in Macon was also lost to the Fraternity, reducing Sigma Nu's Georgia chapters from five to three in one college year. Eta Chapter was founded at Mercer University in 1884, and initiated four hundred and fifty-seven men before the charter was withdrawn in 1933. A reduction in the enrollment of the University caused a similar falling off in the chapter's personnel. Only four men were initiated in 1931 and one in 1932. Neither the alumni nor the few active members in college in 1933 seemed able to bring the declining chapter back to sufficient strength to assure its life, so the charter was withdrawn by the High Council. This chapter had been outstanding in the early growth of the Fraternity in Georgia and contributed many prominent men to Sigma Nu; among them U. S. Senator Walter F. George of Georgia, five trustees of the Mercer University, and eight alumni in "Who's Who in America".

One of the outstanding celebrations of a chapter's fiftieth anniversary was Epsilon's at Bethany College in West Virginia. More than a hundred alumni, including George R. McVey, one of the chapter's charter members and the Founder of Rho Chapter at Missouri, returned for this occasion, May 20, 1933. Among other alumni there for the celebration were Past Regent Roy L. Bovard, former inspector for the Fifth Division, Grand Treasurer John M. Roberts, General Secretary Sewell, Editor of *The Delta* Thomas, Inspector C. Edward Palmer of the Fifth Division, and former Inspector Sanford B. Thorn, who was largely responsible for Epsilon's new chapter house. Elaborate preparations had been made by an alumni committee and the collegiate chapter for properly observing this date in the life of the chapter. A history of Epsilon Chapter was written by Ulysses G. Palmer, Jr., Epsilon, for the occasion, and published by the Property Association of the chapter. Grand Historian Scott said of it, "This combination of exceptional material and talent is responsible for one of the noteworthy contributions to Sigma Nu's chapter history archives." The outpouring of alumni for this occasion was proof of Epsilon's enduring value and strength.



GEORGE R. McVEY, EPSILON
First year initiate of the Bethany chapter in 1883, who founded Rho at Missouri in 1886. Picture taken on the occasion of his return to Bethany for the chapter's fiftieth anniversary in 1933.

Lambda Chapter at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, observed its half century during the college year 1932-33. The Founder of Lambda Chapter, sometimes referred to as the "Second Founder of the Fraternity", Dr. Isaac P. Robinson, in writing his beloved Lambda at the time of its fiftieth anniversary, said, "Youth is perhaps the greatest experience in life—bright and burnished with the splendor of adventure and romance, bedecked in

fancy and imagination. By memory's stream to sit in lands we love is not a transient experience, and so if we have been clean and upright through our years, then the magic of youth can be summoned back to form a part of the sunshine of our dreams, as the lands we love are enchanted places that rise in our vision over all the tears, and if we are wise we can invoke there, the flame and bower of life and love itself to form a part of the cherished recollections." And in closing he recalls an old chapter song

With hearts and voices lifted,
In our joyous way,
We sing to dear old Lambda
Forever and a day.

Three chapters celebrated anniversaries in 1934; Mu Chapter at the University of Georgia observed the sixtieth anniversary of the effort to establish a chapter at Georgia, in 1873-74. A distinguished group of alumni came to Athens for this affair. Governor Eugene Talmadge, Mu, whose son, Herman, was then commander of Mu Chapter; Attorney General Manning J. Yeomans, Mu-Sigma, whose second Sigma Nu son was in the chapter at the time; and Editor of *The Delta* Thomas representing the National Fraternity, were there, with numerous other alumni.

Nu Chapter at Kansas University observed its fiftieth anniversary in the spring of 1934, bringing a striking group of distinguished alumni back to Lawrence for the occasion. Few chapters have contributed more to the growth of Sigma Nu than Nu. The principal speaker at the banquet celebrating fifty years of Nu was Past Grand Recorder and Past Editor of *The Delta* Grant W. Harrington, who had planted more chapters west of the Mississippi River than any member of the Fraternity. Ten alumni of Nu Chapter have their biographies in "Who's Who in America", most of whom are found to be active alumni of the chapter. A loyal spirit toward their chapter and fraternity has been typical of Sigma Nus at Kansas, which contributes to Nu Chapter's great strength.

Another chapter whose fiftieth anniversary fell in the spring of 1934 was Xi at Emory University in Atlanta. With a distinguished group of alumni, this chapter has taken an active part in making Sigma Nu a dominant fraternity in the State of Georgia. The celebration of Xi's fiftieth anniversary was noteworthy for the number of young alumni who returned for the occasion.

The year 1934 also saw the withdrawal of two charters by the High Council. Gamma Rho Chapter was withdrawn from the University of Chicago in December. In announcing this withdrawal, the High Council reported that the action was being taken "after four years of effort to have a properly functioning chapter.

"The main purpose of the Fraternity is to contribute through fellowship and social relationships, to the character, intellectual, and general development of college students. It maintains that by proper association and training of young men during their college years, much is added to their academic education that better prepares them for their respective careers.

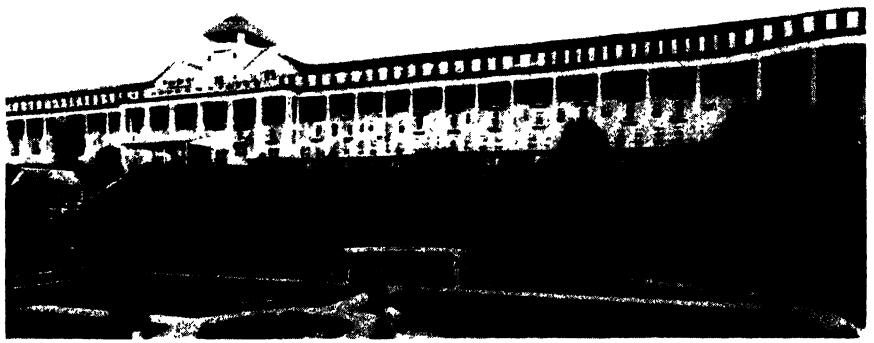
"The dormitory system and the present general attitude toward fraternities on the part of the University of Chicago administration prevent without undue difficulties on the part of our chapter, the proper carrying out of the aims and objects of Sigma Nu and in so doing, contributing to the University."

Beta Phi Chapter was withdrawn from Tulane University in New Orleans the same year. The chapter had steadily grown weaker and its internal organization had become so lax that it seemed advisable to suspend the charter.

Pi Chapter at Lehigh University celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1935. The chapter's annual publication, "The Pi-Eye", was made a special anniversary issue with a brief history of the chapter and complete directory of its membership. This has been one of Sigma Nu's strong chapters for many years.

MACKINAC GRAND CHAPTER, 1933

The Twenty-sixth Grand Chapter was held at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Michigan, August 24 to 26, 1933. Regent Otto K. Grau, Beta Chi, Stanford, presided over this convention. Outstanding at this Grand Chapter was the first report of the Fraternity's Committee on the State of the Fraternity. There



THE GRAND HOTEL, MACKINAC ISLAND, MICHIGAN
Meeting place of the Twenty-sixth Grand Chapter in August, 1933.

had long been such a committee which reported at each convention on the position of the Fraternity as they saw it through reports and other facts presented the Grand Chapter. But in the course of the biennium preceding the Mackinac Grand Chapter, the High Council appointed new members to this committee with the hope of getting a more far-reaching and exhaustive program for the Fraternity's future course as part of the educational system of the country.

THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE FRATERNITY

The Committee on the State of the Fraternity at the time of the Twenty-sixth Grand Chapter consisted of John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi, Missouri Valley-Chicago, as chairman, with Dr. Charles J. Turck, Beta Phi-Delta Gamma, Tulane-Columbia, President of Centre College; Dr. Orren C. Hormell, Delta Psi, Bowdoin, Professor of Political Science at Bowdoin; Dr. Frank Aydelotte,

Beta Eta, Indiana, President of Swarthmore College and American Secretary to the Rhodes Trustees; and Inspector Arthur C. Perry, Delta Pi, George Washington, attorney of Washington, D. C. With the exception of Dr. Aydelotte, all members of this committee were at the Grand Chapter. Dr. Turck addressed the delegates as he had two years before at Bigwin.

Acting in a purely advisory capacity, the Committee on the State of the Fraternity drew up a number of plans whereby chapters might become stronger integral parts of the educational institutions wherein they are located. A suggestion to invite outstanding faculty members, interesting alumni or other distinguished visitors to come to the chapter house, holding forums or informal discussion groups with the members of the chapter, met with an immediate favorable response from many chapters. Creating chapter libraries in which good books, current literature and other reading matter of general value would at all times be available to chapter members appealed to alumni and collegiate groups, where the chapter did not already maintain a library.

In this connection certain chapters were interested in procuring resident preceptors or tutors, some few chapters having already found this a beneficial influence in promoting a stimulating and cultural atmosphere in the chapter house and in improving chapter scholarship. The Mackinac Grand Chapter marked a definite trend in the Fraternity's interest toward making each chapter a more forceful influence in the college life of its members; and, thereby, making a more definite contribution to the colleges and universities in which chapters are located.

From a legislative standpoint the outstanding change in the Fraternity's organization effected at the Mackinac Grand Chapter was the institution of alumni chapters of each collegiate chapter, and making the former city alumni chapters, alumni clubs. Experience had proven that strong collegiate chapters were those over which alumni had been diligent in their support and interest. City alumni chapters were in most part social groups with no definite or constructive interest in any particular collegiate chapter. The attendance of delegates at Grand Chapters from city alumni chapters had shrunk to a negligible point. The law was, therefore, revised to allow each collegiate chapter to maintain an alumni chapter, having one vote at the Grand Chapter. The city clubs were denied their former vote in Grand Chapter, though they could be represented. It was also anticipated that this would stimulate the interest of the alumni of each chapter and give them a more definite place in the general fraternity organization, allying the interest of the collegiate chapter more closely with that of the alumni, and the two with the national fraternity through the Grand Chapter.

A monthly audit of chapter accounts was instituted at this Grand Chapter, further strengthening the Fraternity's uniform accounting system.

The Twenty-sixth Grand Chapter adopted a Past Regent's badge, first suggested by Otto K. Grau, to be presented each regent as he went out of office. It is a replica of the Founder's badge; so made that it can be worn, suspended on a ribbon in the colors of the Fraternity, from a bar pin; or worn on a white, black, and gold neck ribbon, such as military or foreign decorations are worn.

The Mackinac Grand Chapter was marked by good spirit, generated by the

best singing of recent Grand Chapters. The presence of a large number of ladies, wives and daughters of alumni, and a carefully planned program for their entertainment under the direction of Mrs. Malcolm C. Sewell, added immeasurably to the success of this Grand Chapter. The ideal setting of the Grand Hotel, high on the isolated Mackinac Island, gave a definite spirit to the Twenty-sixth Grand Chapter that could not easily be duplicated.

This Grand Chapter elevated First Vice Regent Frank L. Yates, Gamma Pi-Delta Pi, West Virginia-George Washington, to the regency. Inspector Errett R. Newby, Delta Epsilon, Oklahoma, was elected Second Vice Regent; LeRoy E. Kimball, Gamma Gamma, Albion, automatically advancing from that position to First Vice Regent. Grand Historian John C. Scott, Beta Zeta, Purdue, and Grand Chaplain Joseph L. Stout, Beta Beta, DePauw, were re-elected. The High Council elected James H. Clarke, Jr., Gamma Nu, Michigan, to the Board of Trustees, to succeed Merrill C. Adams, Gamma Gamma, Albion, whose term expired.



FRANK L. YATES,
GAMMA PI-DELTA PI

Alumnus of West Virginia and George Washington, Legal Assistant to the Comptroller General of the United States, Second Vice Regent, 1931, First Vice Regent, 1931-33, elected Regent at the Mackinac Grand Chapter in 1933, presided at the White Sulphur Springs Grand Chapter, and presented the Founders' Memorial in the name of the Fraternity to the Virginia Military Institute, August 25, 1935, at the time of the Pilgrimage to Lexington.



JAMES H. CLARKE, GAMMA NU

Young Michigan alumnus and prominent investment counselor of Chicago, who became a trustee of the Fraternity in 1933.

The newly elected Regent Yates was legal assistant to the comptroller general of the United States and a young, farseeing and euthusiastic attorney. As Inspector of the states of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia, he had worked with the oldest collegiate chapters in the Fraternity. A native of the Fraternity's cradle, he had breathed deeply the inspiring traditions of Sigma Nu

and Virginia. To the High Council he brought the wise counsel of an astute legal mind and the inspiration of a man educated in the Fraternity's rich heritage.

Second Vice Regent Newby was the new member of this High Council. A charter member of Delta Epsilon Chapter at the University of Oklahoma, he had attended a Grand Chapter before he became a Sigma Nu. As an inspector in the days that the General Offices were being set up in their present administrative form, he took an active part in the national affairs of the Fraternity. With Horace E. Sibson, Gamma Theta, he developed the Fraternity's system of uniform accounting for all chapters. It was said of him that after spending two days with a chapter he could call the name of every member of the chapter. The chapters of his division, the twelfth, were among the best managed in the Fraternity. First as a college administrator and later as a business man, he brought wide and valuable experience to the High Council.



ERRETT R. NEWBY, DELTA EPSILON
First initiate of the Oklahoma chapter, long active in University and Fraternity affairs. Second Vice Regent, 1933-85, who became First Vice Regent at the White Sulphur Springs Grand Chapter.



MERRILL C. ADAMS, GAMMA GAMMA
Albion College alumnus and trustee, Detroit banker, who served on the Fraternity's first Board of Trustees, 1929-33.

Outstanding throughout the biennium of this High Council's term was Sigma Nu's greater attention to the definitely constructive features of college and fraternity life, and a more stimulating regard for the traditions of its foundations. Regent Yates was deeply steeped in the early history and life of the Fraternity, through his own Virginia heritage and personal contacts. With Second Vice Regent Newby's ascent to the High Council another forceful and constructive personality was added to those of First Vice Regent Kimball and Grand Treasurer Roberts. The influence of Grand

Historian Scott was widely felt through the fact that "The Story of Sigma Nu" had gone into the hands of nearly ten thousand members of the Fraternity since its publication in 1927. Grand Chaplain Stout completed in this biennium eight years of devoted service as the Fraternity's spiritual adviser. A genial and cordial personality had endeared him to Sigma Nus over a long period through his attendance at twelve Grand Chapters.

Two petitions for charters were presented the Mackinac Grand Chapter, both of which were acted upon favorably, one from the Eunomian Society of Michigan State College at East Lansing, and the other from Beta Sigma Fraternity at Southwestern in Memphis, Tennessee.

INSTALLATION OF EPSILON RHO CHAPTER AT MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE

The Eunomian Society of Michigan State College at East Lansing became Epsilon Rho Chapter January 20, 1934. Michigan State College dates its beginning from the Agricultural Society organized in Lansing in 1849. Through constant effort this group succeeded in 1857 in getting instruction in scientific and practical agriculture started at Lansing. The present college grew from this small beginning. In 1885 a department of mechanic arts was opened. It was not until 1924 that a liberal arts course was added, and since that time there has been great growth in the college.

When the Eunomian Society was organized in 1903 at Michigan Agricultural College there was a local ruling prohibiting national fraternities. This was revoked in 1920, and immediately contacts were made with Sigma Nu. John M. Roberts, then Inspector of the Ninth Division, first visited the group. In the ten-year period between June 22, 1922, and October 8, 1932, no less than five informal petitions were published by the Eunomians and submitted to the Sigma Nu Chapters of the Ninth Division. Two members of the petitioning group attended the Washington Grand Chapter in 1927, but failed to get the necessary favorable action on their petition. Gamma Nu Chapter at the University of Michigan long opposed the entrance of the Fraternity into the Agricultural College. With the growth in the Lansing school and the change in its name in 1926 to the Michigan State College, there was a gradual change in attitude toward entering. General Secretaries Ernest Lee Williams, Vernon M. Williams and Malcolm C. Sewell, and Editor of *The Delta* Thomas visited the petitioning group during its long struggle for Sigma Nu recognition. The chapters of the Ninth Division under Inspector H. Fraser Johnstone, Beta Omicron-Beta Mu, finally approved the petition in 1933, soon after which the Mackinac Grand Chapter gave it the Fraternity's final indorsement, with eight members of the petitioning group, headed by Minard E. Farley, present.

The installation ceremonies over the week-end of January 19 to 21, 1934, were a fitting introduction for the new Epsilon Rho Chapter. Joseph A. Baldwin, Gamma Gamma, Albion, was in charge of the arrangements. Members of Gamma Gamma Chapter conducted the formal pledging ceremony. The installation ball was held in the College Union with Sigma Nu's banners and pennants from more than a hundred colleges and universities decorating the walls of the spacious hall.

An impressive initiation ceremony for nineteen charter members, twelve pledges and twelve alumni, was put on by an alumni committee consisting of Robert W. Baldwin, Joseph A. Baldwin, Paul C. Ewbank and Dr. Kenneth B. Keeler, alumni of Gamma Gamma Chapter. Past Regent Roy L. Bovard accompanied on the piano, while Commander Charles A. Going, Gamma Gamma, sang the initiation songs, adding much to the impressiveness of the ritual. A reception was held at the Eunomian House that afternoon for faculty and students, at which the house was a veritable green-house of flowers sent by fraternities and sororities on the campus.

The installation banquet in the Student Union Building crowned the week-end. Large delegations were there from the Albion and Michigan chapters, as well as numerous alumni from over the state. Editor of *The Delta* Thomas acted as toastmaster. General Secretary Sewell presented the charter to Epsilon Rho's first commander, Curtis C. Rogers, the son of Augustus J. Rogers, Gamma



CHARTER MEMBERS OF EPSILON RHO AT MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE
Front row, left to right: Robert L. Featherly, George W. Patterson, Graham J. Terry, Commander Curtis C. Rogers, Earle M. Stump, James A. Lewis.
Second row: Joseph A. Pelton, Howard N. Girardin, Harry S. Walker, Albert J. Bradley, Wayne H. Chapman, Andrew J. Moore.
Third row: Merrill K. Lemmon, Minard E. Farley, Jr., Wallace C. Clark, James W. Davis, Loraine O. Hawley, David A. Burchett. (Lewis S. Young not in picture.)

Lambda, Wisconsin. In addition to Past Regent Bovard, First Vice Regent LeRoy E. Kimball, represented the High Council.

Sigma Nu has taken in few chapters as well established in a physical way or with stronger man-power, both among its alumni and active undergraduate

members as Epsilon Rho. Owning its home which the group built some years ago and large wooded property facing three streets, the new chapter has been adequately housed for a number of years. A strong alumni organization gives it a stable guiding influence and assurance of continued support. Outstanding members, prominent on the campus in every line of activity, assure Sigma Nu's success at Michigan State College.

National fraternities with chapters at Michigan State when Sigma Nu entered were Phi Delta Theta 1873, Alpha Gamma Rho 1922, Lambda Chi Alpha 1922, Delta Sigma Phi 1923, Phi Kappa Tau 1924, Pi Kappa Phi 1925, Sigma Alpha Epsilon 1927, and Theta Kappa Nu 1930.

INSTALLATION OF EPSILON SIGMA CHAPTER AT SOUTHWESTERN

Southwestern in Memphis, which Sigma Nu entered February 10, 1934, represents a continuity in tradition in higher education in the South which goes back to 1848, when the Masonic Grand Lodge of the State of Tennessee, in connection with the Masonic Fraternity of Montgomery County, decided to establish at Clarksville, Tennessee, an institution to be known as Montgomery Masonic College, and erected the first building known as "The Castle". Finding themselves hopelessly involved by reason of inadequate funds, the trustees of the College, after a few years, transferred their assets and liabilities to the Synod of Nashville of the Presbyterian Church. This was in 1855, and the institution took the name of Stewart College.

With the destructive influence and consequent poverty of the people of that section due to the War between the States, the College was rehabilitated with the support of the Presbyterians in Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, the section of the country then known as the Southwest. Accordingly, in 1875, the institution was organized as Southwestern Presbyterian University. An honorable record was established at Clarksville before the trustees decided to move the college to Memphis in 1920. The fine sandstone buildings of collegiate Gothic were erected on a beautiful new campus on the outskirts of the city, and Southwestern began its fifty-first year in its new home in 1925, and entered upon the final phase of its development.

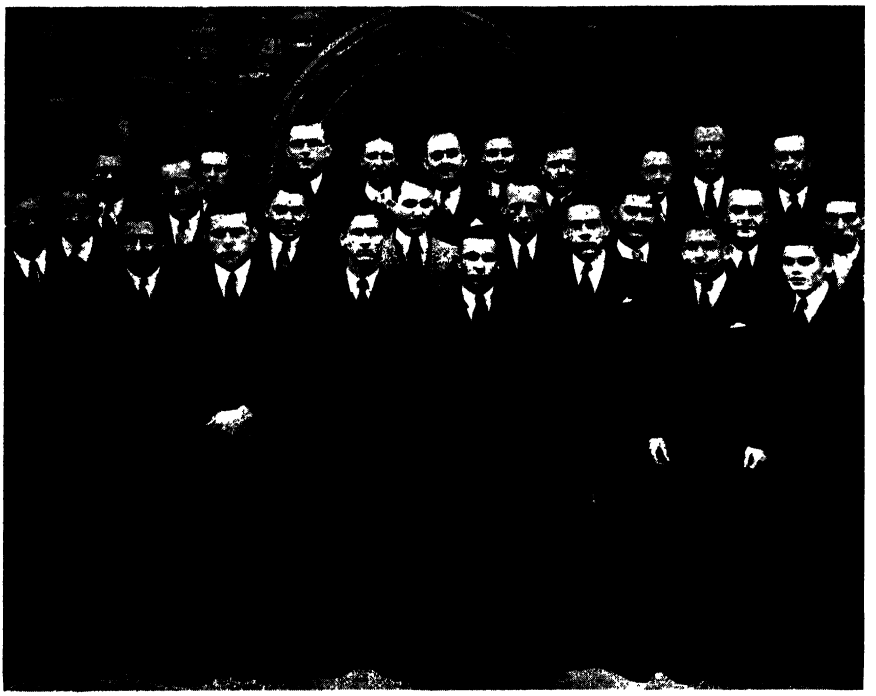
Southwestern, the College of the Mississippi Valley, as it has come to be known, presents splendid educational opportunities along English college lines. Reading for honors and a tutorial reading course have been well worked out since the new campus was created.

With the removal of Southwestern to Memphis in 1925, the student body increased immediately. The late Dr. Thomas H. Ingram, Sigma, Vanderbilt, then college physician, quickly noted the opportunity for additional fraternities. President Diehl supported his plan and Beta Sigma was organized November 25, 1925, with nine undergraduate members. Inspector Walter M. Noel of the Third Division first visited the group and gave it his support. With the creation of the Twentieth Division, Franklin C. Paschal became Inspector. He visited Southwestern and indorsed the petition. Subsequently Regent Orville M. Barnett, General Secretary Vernon M. Williams, and Editor of *The Delta* Thomas visited the group, evincing keen interest in the petition. Following a visit from General Secretary Sewell in 1933, the High Council voted favorably

on the Beta Sigma petition. The final indorsement came when Memphis alumni and members of the petitioning group attended the Twenty-sixth Grand Chapter at Mackinac Island.

During the period that the petition was before the Fraternity members of Beta Sigma were active in every phase of campus life, winning scholastic and extra-curricula honors. A high type personnel marked the group from the day Dr. Ingram selected the original members. And the work of this lamented brother was gloriously crowned, though he did not live to see his hopes consummated.

With the installation of Epsilon Sigma Chapter at Southwestern, February 10, 1934, the Fraternity's active collegiate chapter roll was brought back to



CHARTER MEMBERS AND ALUMNI OF EPSILON SIGMA AT SOUTHWESTERN
Front row, left to right: Henry M. Oliver, Jr., William S. Cobb, Gordon G. Fox, Commander T. Clark Porteous, Edmond C. Hutchinson, Curtis F. Johnson, Richard C. Mays, Herbert E. Williams, Jr.
Second row: Malcolm H. Richie, James Breytspraak, Roy A. Shepard, Arthur T. Bill, Luther W. Southworth, Louis G. Bornman, Robert L. Mobley, Thomas G. Weiss.
Back row: Harold F. Ohlendorf, M. Goodbar Morgan, Schuyler Lowe, J. Malcolm Gibbons, Wallace E. Johnston, John W. Bornman, J. Lindsay Gunn, Leroy N. DuBard, Wayne W. Gray, Logan E. Anderson. (Not in picture: Robert H. Williams, James C. Tompkins, George B. Segraves, Jr., William D. Meacham, James H. Jackson.)

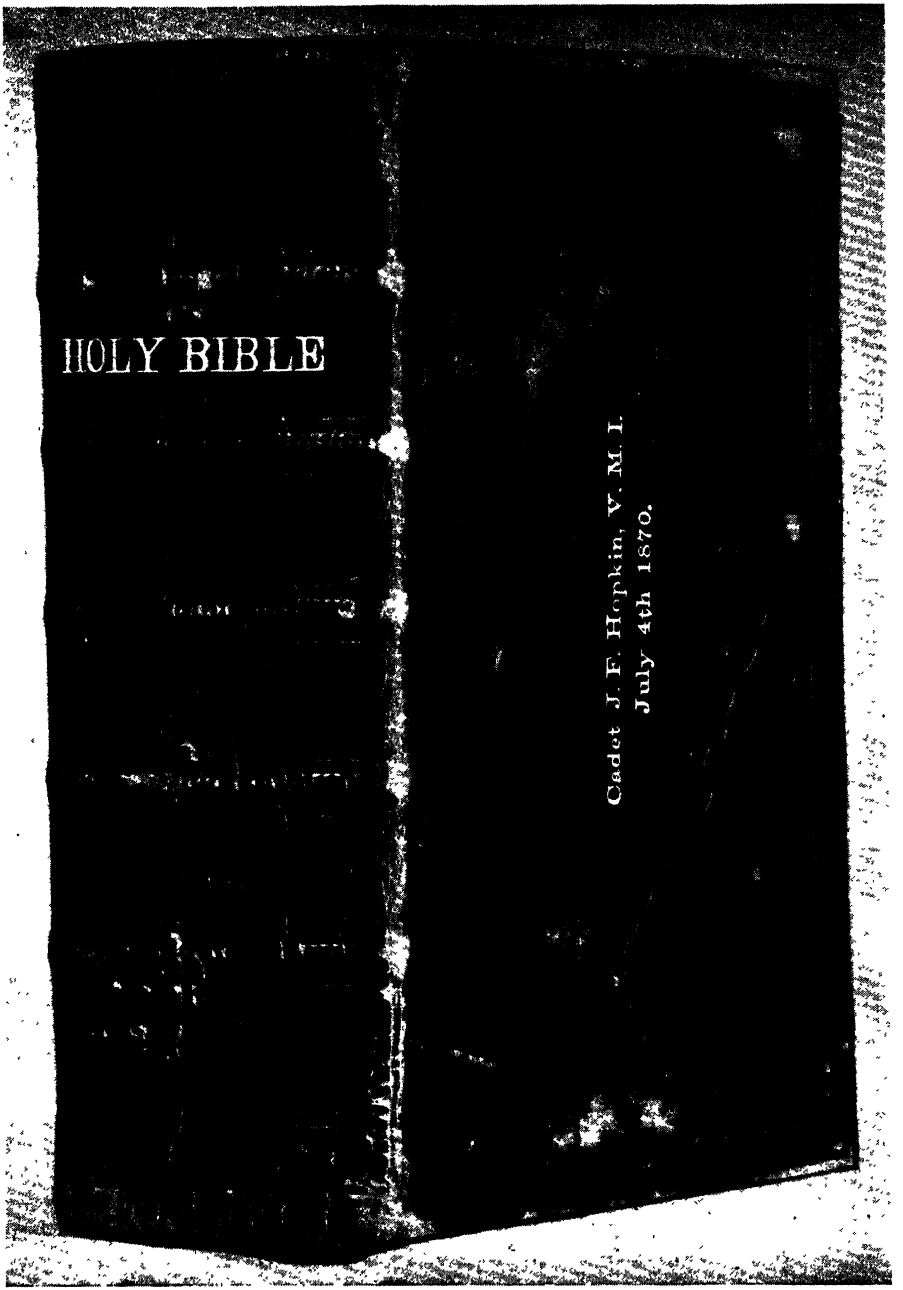
ninety-eight, the all-time high, which had been attained when Beta Gamma Chapter was revived at Missouri Valley College in 1931. The loss of Kappa Chapter at North Georgia College and Eta Chapter at Mercer University accounted for the drop after that time.

The Delta reported that "The very shades of the Founders seemed to have been around Memphis when Beta Sigma Fraternity became Epsilon Sigma Chapter. . . .

"For was it not just across the river from Memphis in the State of Mississippi that the first of the founders, James Frank Hopkins, was born; and in nearby Arkansas lived and died that noble Greenfield Quarles; and not far distant in Missouri lived the third of that great triumvirate, James McIlvaine Riley, the Fraternity's first regent; and in Memphis lived the nineteenth Sigma Nu, Jack Hopson, beloved and admired? But more than this, grandsons of two of these very founders took part in the induction of Beta Sigma into Sigma Nu. Greenfield Quarles Polk, Sigma, Vanderbilt, was one of the most active alumni in promoting this new chapter. Ben W. Hopkins, Gamma Upsilon, Arkansas, was at the installation with his grandfather's Bible, now in the archives of the Fraternity, which was used in the initiation ceremonies, as was a similar Bible which had belonged to Founder Quarles, both given them by General Francis H. Smith, superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute, when the three Founders were graduated, July 4, 1870. Two of Founder Quarles' swords were likewise used in the ceremonies which brought Epsilon Sigma Chapter into being; one his cadet sword, and another given him years later by fellow Confederate veterans. Another brother, that esteemed founder of Gamma Upsilon Chapter at Arkansas, W. Terry Feild, was there with Founder Hopkins' badge, the original Sigma Nu badge. It lay on the lieutenant commander's desk as it was described to the new initiates of Sigma Nu at Southwestern."

Few chapters have come into the Fraternity under more inspiring conditions. Judge Wightman W. Hughes, Sigma, Vanderbilt, was general chairman for the elaborate installation. More than 1,200 invitations had been sent out for the installation ball held in the ballroom of the Peabody Hotel in Memphis. The initiation of the nine charter members, one pledge and twenty alumni of Beta Sigma was conducted in the Peabody Hotel by a team made up of Herbert Gannaway, Sigma, John A. Thomas, Sigma, Larry B. Pryor, Gamma Theta. Cornell, Dr. Loraine L. Carter, Sigma-Epsilon Eta, Vanderbilt-Tennessee, and Gordon Siefkin, Beta Mu, Iowa. Music for the initiation was furnished by Patrick R. Merritt, Beta Omicron, Sewanee. The dignity, impressiveness and general excellence of the entire ceremonies could not fail to move every new initiate and alumnus present. The perfection of the presentation of the ritual evidenced long effort on the part of the team.

The banquet was also held in the Peabody with Judge Hughes as toastmaster. General Secretary Sewell presented the charter for Epsilon Sigma Chapter to Commander T. Clark Porteous. Inspector Franklin C. Paschal, Beta Beta, DePauw, of the Twentieth Division, Second Vice Regent Errett R. Newby, Past Regent Borden Burr, and Editor of *The Delta* Thomas were among alumni there. Nearby chapters were represented by groups of active men and many alumni from over the state and adjoining territory attended. The formal installation ceremonies were closed Sunday morning with a chapel service on the Southwestern campus with the Reverend Raymond E. MacBlain, Beta Omicron, Sewanee, preaching, and the Reverend Wayne W. Gray, newly initiated alumnus of Epsilon Sigma, assisting in the service.



FOUNDER HOPKINS' BIBLE

Which was presented the Founder of the Fraternity by General Francis H. Smith, Superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute, when Hopkins was graduated, July 4, 1870.

On the flyleaf of this Bible, which now has a valued place in the Fraternity's archives, in the writing of Founder Hopkins, is this deeply moving sentiment: "V. M. I., July 3, 1870. Today is one of the saddest days of my life. Our class met Gen'l Smith at 3 o'clock and after some very touching remarks and good advice, gave us each a Bible. I can hardly realize that when we left the section room our class, which has been so closely and constantly thrown together for four years, had been together as an unit for the last time. That ties of true friendship which have been repeatedly tested must be broken, and for many, finally broken, some few of us may meet again, but all of us never. How solemn and lonely that word never sounds. Oh! Father aid me, strengthen me, that I may keep perfectly the advice of our faithful Superintendent."

Epsilon Sigma Chapter entered this fine old college of the Presbyterian Church and the Mississippi Valley under the very inspiring stimulus of the Founders' influence, and in the enthusiasm of one of the most active alumni groups in the Fraternity; a group whose every effort went toward making this installation outstanding in the annals of Sigma Nu.

THE WHITE SULPHUR GRAND CHAPTER AND PILGRIMAGE TO VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

The Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia and the Pilgrimage to Virginia Military Institute in August, 1935, should for a long time mark a high point in the life of Sigma Nu. The Fraternity could well have made an audit of its progress up to that period. Physically Sigma Nu was strong, spiritually she was rich.

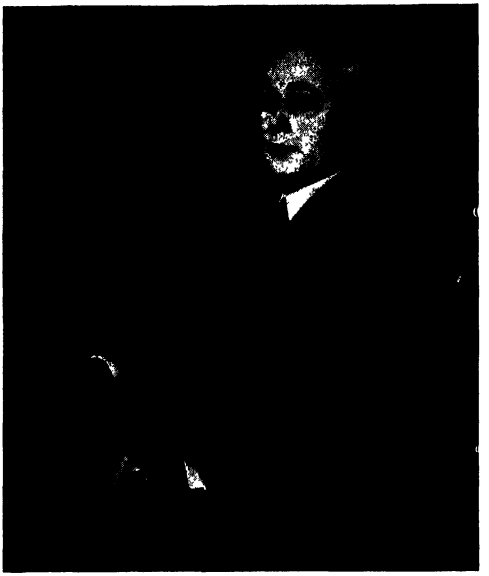
Since the three Founders planted Sigma Nu at the Virginia Military Institute in 1869, thirty-five thousand brothers had entered her ranks. Slightly



THE GREENBRIER HOTEL, WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, WEST VIRGINIA
Famed southern watering place, seventy miles west of Lexington, Virginia, where the Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter met in August, 1935, and from whence the Fraternity's historic Pilgrimage to the Virginia Military Institute was made.

over two thousand of these had gone to their reward. One hundred and ten collegiate chapters had been established, ninety-six of which were actively functioning, but a small percentage of dormant chapters in any comparison. These ninety-six chapters represented institutions in forty-six states, making Sigma Nu geographically the most representative general college fraternity, only South Dakota and New Mexico being unrepresented. Three thousand college men were living under the influence of Sigma Nu every year, ten times that number under her banner. The Fraternity through its Permanent Endowment Fund since it was established in 1921, had built up the rather satisfactory endowment of over $400,000.00. Sigma Nu is the only fraternity that uses its endowment fund as both a magazine life subscription and a house loan fund

for its chapters. Of our ninety-six collegiate chapters, eighty-two owned their houses, with a total valuation of near three and a half million dollars, or an average valuation of forty thousand dollars. Fifty-nine chapters had received house loans from the Permanent Endowment Fund. Through the P. E. F. over three thousand three hundred members had contributed fifty dollars each and thereby had become life subscribers to *The Delta*, while more than 18,000 members of the Fraternity were subscribers to the Fund.



HARRY WOODBURN CHASE, DELTA BETA
Dartmouth alumnus, former president of the Universities of North Carolina and Illinois, Chancellor of New York University since 1933.

The Fraternity's scholastic position showed a satisfactory rise, when in the college year 1932-33 for the first time since the Interfraternity Conference began issuing such reports, Sigma Nu's weighted average was above the all-men's average of the various colleges in which there were chapters. The October, 1935, *Delta*, a profusely illustrated rushing number, listed more than three hundred alumni who had attained the distinction of being mentioned in "Who's Who in America", and eighty-three alumni in "America's Young Men", or one out of each fifty men listed in the latter publication. Likewise the section devoted to active collegiate chapters showed Sigma Nu taking a leading part in campus activities throughout the country. Sixteen members of the Fraternity have been Rhodes Scholars, while fifteen have been selected on All-America football teams.



FRANK AYDELOTTE, BETA ETA
Indiana University alumnus, American Secretary to the Rhodes Trustees, president of Swarthmore College

Sigma Nu was one of the charter members of the National Interfraternity Conference, when established in 1909 by

twenty-five of the stronger national fraternities. This is a co-operating, but non-legislative association of the progressive fraternities for men. Annual meetings have been held since its organization, generally in New York City. The conference publishes a *Year Book* of notable value, which preserves in permanent form addresses and reports of importance of the fraternity system. First Vice Regent LeRoy E. Kimball, Gamma Gamma, Albion, was elected chairman of the National Interfraternity Conference in 1934, at which time sixty-six national fraternities were members of the conference.

Subsidiary organizations of the conference are the College Fraternity Secretaries' Association, the College Fraternity Editors' Association, and the National Undergraduate Interfraternity Council. General Secretary Malcolm C. Sewell headed the Secretaries' Association in 1933-34; while at the same time Editor of *The Delta* Charles Edward Thomas was president of the Editors' Association. Howard E. Melton, Commander of Lambda Chapter at Washington and Lee University, was elected chairman of the Undergraduate Council at the 1935 meeting. Thus during the biennium, 1933-35, members of Sigma Nu held the highest offices in these four groups representing national interfraternity organizations.



LEROY ELWOOD KIMBALL, GAMMA GAMMA

Distinguished Albion College alumnus and trustee, from whence he holds an honorary LL.D. degree, Comptroller of New York University, Chairman National Interfraternity Conference, 1935, veteran New York alumni leader, Inspector, First and Second Vice Regent, elected Regent at the White Sulphur Springs Grand Chapter in August, 1935.

The Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter at White Sulphur Springs elected LeRoy E. Kimball, Gamma Gamma, Albion, Regent; Errett R. Newby, Delta Epsilon, Oklahoma, automatically became First Vice Regent; while Inspector Edward H. Hashinger, Nu, Kansas, was made Second Vice Regent; Grand Treasurer John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi, Missouri Valley-Chicago, was re-elected for his second six-year term, having already served a total of ten years as treasurer of the Fraternity. This period of service on the High Council, beginning in 1921, had been equalled by only two men.

Sigma Nu seemed to be especially fortunate, at this time of economic stress throughout the world with political and social institutions undergoing many changes, some of which were regarded radical and certainly many experimental, to have a High Council made up of men of wide experience and good judgment, so outstanding in their various fields and professions. Regent Kimball as comptroller of New York University and treasurer of the Association of American Colleges, enjoyed a high place in college, university and financial circles. He had been honored by his alma mater in June, 1935, with an honor-

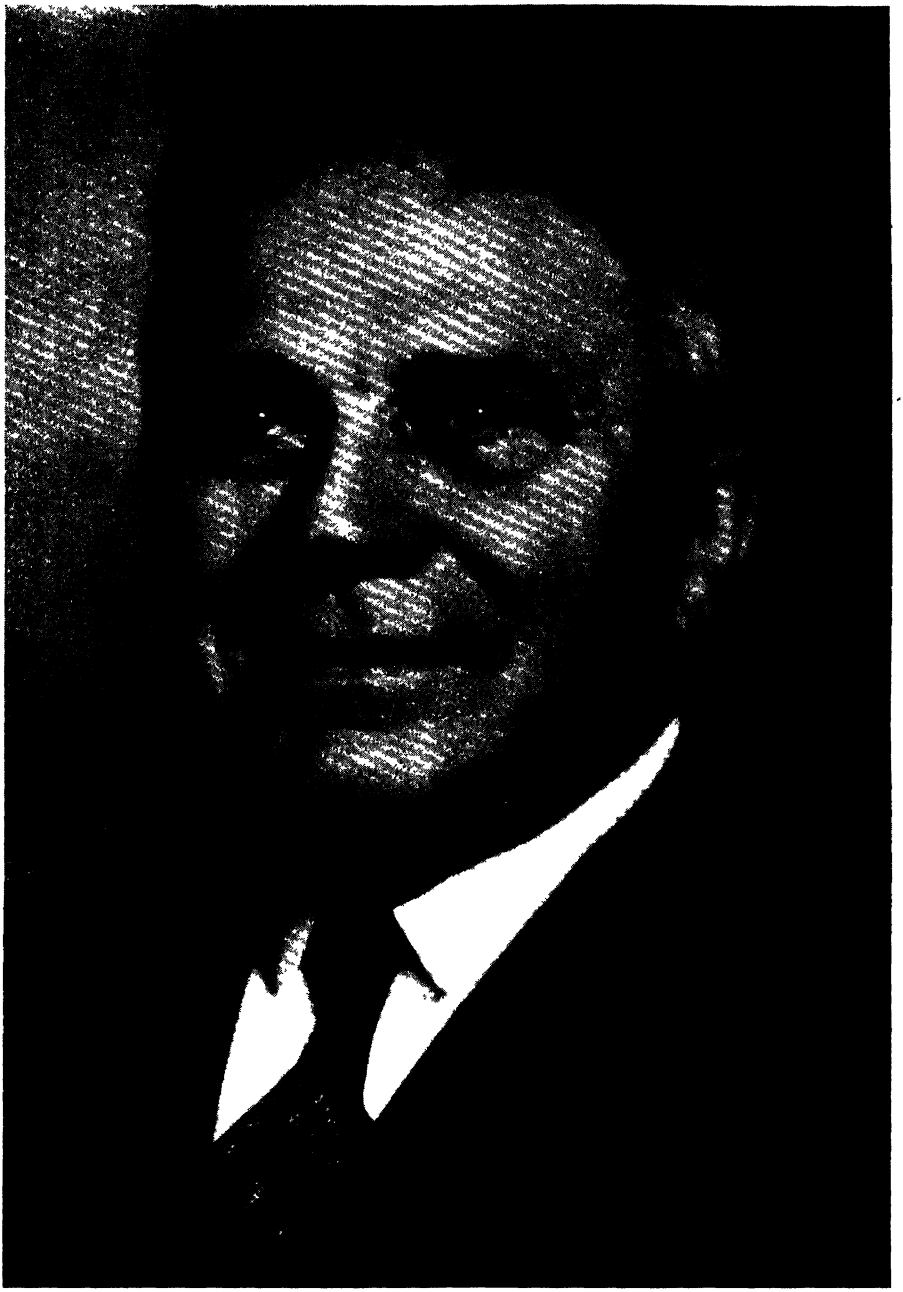
ary LL.D. degree. For thirty years Roy Kimball had served Sigma Nu in New York, both in alumni circles and as inspector. First Vice Regent Newby as vice president of a large Oklahoma oil company and an active member of his University's alumni association brought experience and knowledge of fraternity, college and business affairs into the councils of Sigma Nu. The accession of Dr. Hashinger to the High Council as second vice regent brought a young and vital point of view into the body, and an enthusiasm born of devoted activity in his Fraternity.

At the time of his election to the High Council, Dr. Hashinger was associate professor of medicine, School of Medicine, University of Kansas. His election returned to the High Council a profession that had not been represented for the twenty-nine years since Regent Dyer completed his active service on the High Council. Dr. Hashinger's enthusiasm for the Fraternity had been demonstrated in his constant interest in his own Nu Chapter at the University of Kansas, where he had failed to attend few rushing seasons since his initiation in 1914. As Inspector for the Twelfth Division, where he had succeeded Malcolm C. Sewell, he brought this enthusiasm into the strong chapters of the states of Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska. He was known for his interest, especially in rushing, scholarship and properly presented ritual. His Grand Chapter speeches on rushing made him known throughout the Fraternity as "Sigma Nu's greatest rusher." As Commander for the revival of Beta Gamma Chapter at Missouri Valley College and in the model initiation ceremonies presented at the Bigwin, Mackinac and White Sulphur Springs Grand Chapters, his ritualistic work had done much to enhance the impressiveness of Sigma Nu initiations.



EDWARD H. HASHINGER, NU
Enthusiastic Kansas alumnus, whose speeches on rushing and presentation of model initiation rituals have made him widely known in Grand Chapters. Inspector for Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska, elected Second Vice Regent at the Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter in 1935.

Grand Treasurer Roberts' election for another six years marked again the Fraternity's recognition of the man who had not only been outstanding in national affairs of Sigma Nu for more than fifteen years, but who had perhaps done more to assure the Fraternity's satisfactory financial position than any single person in the life of Sigma Nu. On the High Council since 1921, his influence had steadily grown. As Grand Treasurer through the economic depression years since 1929, it was largely through his care and foresight that the Permanent Endowment Fund and other moneys of the Fraternity had been carefully safeguarded. Few men in the history of the Fraternity have given more liberally and freely of their time and thought to Sigma Nu than John M.



JOHN MARSHALL ROBERTS,
BETA GAMMA-BETA PI

Devoted alumnus of Missouri Valley College, where he is a trustee, alumnus of the University of Chicago, prominent scientific instrument manufacturer of Chicago, Inspector, 1917-21, Vice Regent, 1921-23, Regent, 1923-26, Grand Treasurer since 1926. Few men have given more generously of their time and interest to the affairs of the Fraternity; travelling widely among chapters, assisting in the formulation of constructive policies, working out details with collegiate and alumni members, his influence has been immense.

Roberts. Both Regent Kimball and Grand Treasurer Roberts were trustees of their respective colleges, while Vice Regent Newby was a trustee of Phillips University.

The White Sulphur Springs Grand Chapter re-elected Grand Historian John C. Scott, Beta Zeta, Purdue; and the Reverend Thomas H. Wright, Beta Omicron, Sewanee, Rector of the Robert E. Lee Memorial Church at Lexington, was made Grand Chaplain. A feature of the Grand Chapter banquet, at which Past Regent and Trustee Borden Burr was toastmaster, was the presentation of Past Regents' badges, as authorized by the Mackinac Grand Chapter, to all men eligible for this distinction in the service of their Fraternity.

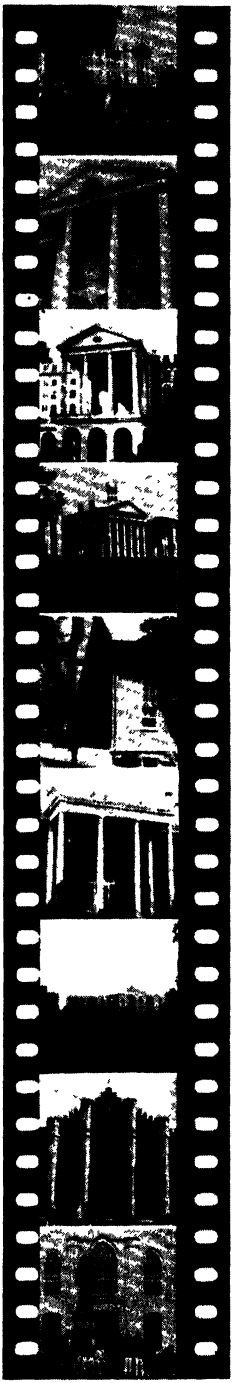


THE REVEREND THOMAS H. WRIGHT, BETA OMICRON

Youthful Sewanee alumnus, former Inspector for Georgia, in charge of the installation of Gamma chapter at Duke University, chairman of the committee for the Pilgrimage to V. M. I., elected Grand Chaplain at White Sulphur Springs in 1935.

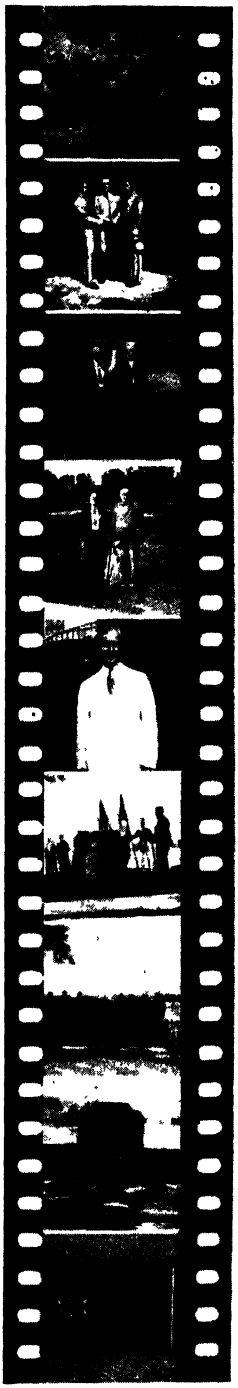
SOUND MOTION PICTURE MADE

The Fraternity's first sound motion picture film was begun at the time of the Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter and Pilgrimage to the Virginia Military Institute. This was completed in the winter of 1935-36, and first shown before the Butler University Chapter in Indianapolis, March 8, 1936. A two reel standard thirty-five millimeter sound film, entitled "The Trail of the White Star", it was the second fraternity moving picture ever to be made. The film opens with the Fraternity's official song, "*The White Star of Sigma Nu*" played on an organ by Porter Heaps, Gamma Beta, Northwestern. The story and dialogue of the picture is the work of Editor of *The Delta* Thomas, and the picture was made under the direction of General Secretary Sewell. Regent LeRoy E. Kimball introduces the film with a three-minute talk on the history and progress of Sigma Nu. Synchronized progressive maps show the Fraternity's growth throughout the country, followed by flashes of twenty-one distinctive and representative chapter houses. The narration throughout the remainder of the film is spoken by Parker Wheatley, Epsilon Mu, Butler. The Grand Chapter at White Sulphur Springs; the Pilgrimage; a tour of the V. M. I. campus and buildings; a dialogue between Robert W. Massie and John R. Doles, early Alpha Chapter members, as they stand on the spot where long stood the Rock of Sigma Nu, clasping Founder Hopkins' Bible; tributes to V. M. I., Lexington and Alpha Chapter by Past Regents and active alumni of the Fraternity; climaxing with the dedication of the Founders' Memorial photographed with actual sound, closes the thrilling inspirational film of Sigma Nu's progress. With this another page



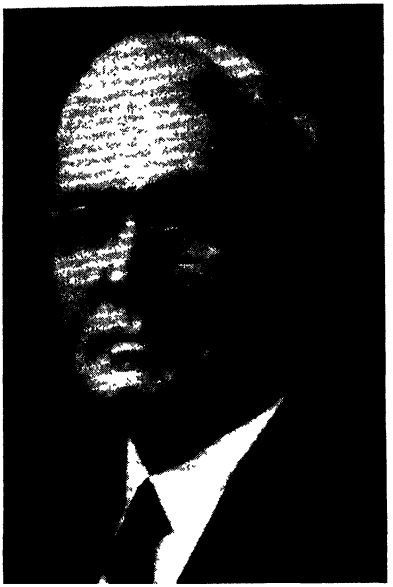
is entered in the chronicles of the Fraternity. Now added to *The Delta* and "The Story of Sigma Nu" is a new form of recording and dramatizing the Fraternity's life and history.

"In every decade of Sigma Nu history, one Grand Chapter has stood out as an epochal occasion because of its inspirational manifestations," wrote Grand Historian John C. Scott in the May, 1935, *Delta* in anticipation of the White Sulphur Springs Grand Chapter, which was to be held in August of that year. Commenting further, the Grand Historian wrote, "The Sixth Grand Chapter, which met in St. Louis in 1892, stands out because of its having been the first to evidence the transformation to a truly national status that Sigma Nu had attained . . . it was only the second time that a convention of a Greek-letter society had been held west of the Mississippi River. Ten years later, at Indianapolis in 1902, the Eleventh Grand Chapter attained new heights in spiritual manifestations. The presence of Founders Hopkins and Quarles and John Alexander Howard, Founder of *The Delta*, completed a trio of revered notables whose presence inspired one of the most stirring occasions in the history of the Fraternity. The greatest inspirational Grand Chapter of the next decade was that held in Cleveland in 1917. Being in the midst of the World War



and with many delegates and visitors clad in khaki, the spirit of patriotism added much enthusiasm to this Grand Chapter. During the next decade, the spirit of Old Alpha was again brought into a Grand Chapter in a way that made the 1925 convention, at West Baden Springs, Indiana, second in soul-stirring enthusiasm only to the 1902 Grand Chapter. The inspirational medium was a reunion of notables of the Mother Chapter, Past Commanders Philip Grymes Omohundro and Philip Edward Yeatman meeting for the first time in forty-two years following their collegiate farewells."

The Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter which met at the Greenbrier Hotel, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, August 23 to 26, 1935, was the occasion for a Pilgrimage to the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, just seventy miles east of the convention site. Few events in Sigma Nu's life have demonstrated a greater outpouring of fraternal sentiment than the visit of these several hundred brothers to the birthplace of the Fraternity.



JOHN R. DOLES, ALPHA
V. M. I. initiate of 1881, whose stirring address moved the Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter on the eve of the Pilgrimage.

The formal sessions of the Grand Chapter at White Sulphur Springs were marked by the zeal and interest of undergraduate members. There was little legislation, so ample time was given to informal discussion of active chapter problems of rushing and finances, scholarship and pledge training, preceptors and house mothers, the ritual and house rules.

The stirring address of John R. Doles, Alpha 1881, Virginia Military Institute, at the Grand Chapter smoker, held on the evening preceding the Pilgrimage, and the description of the Rock of Sigma Nu by Major O. M. Baldinger, Alpha 1909, prepared the delegates for the thrilling experiences of a day at Lexington. Major Baldinger had supervised the blasting of the Rock of Sigma Nu in 1912 when as commissioner of grounds for V. M. I. he handled the enlargement of the parade grounds, necessitating the clearing of the early retreat of our Founders.

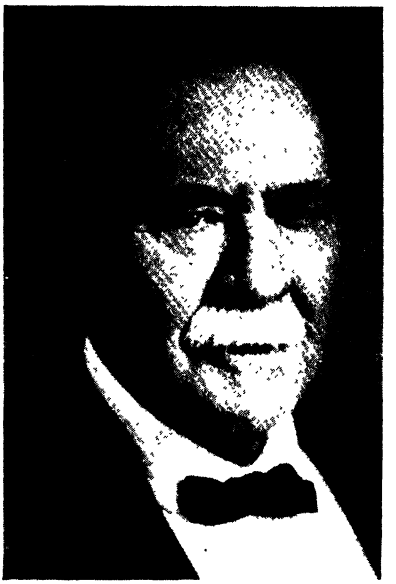
PAINTING OF "THE FOUNDING OF SIGMA NU"

The splendidly executed water-color of "The Founding of Sigma Nu" by James B. Settles, Gamma Omicron, Washington University, St. Louis, was presented the Fraternity. The Grand Chapter authorized the reproduction of this beautifully conceived blue and gray painting of the three Founders in their cadet uniforms, with clasped hands, standing beneath the stars, beside the Rock of Sigma Nu, with the V. M. I. barracks in the far background, as they

took their first vows on the night of January 1, 1869. This picture was used for the cover of the October, 1935, *Delta,* the first four-color illustrated cover ever used on *The Delta.* It was also the cover for the souvenir pictorial program for the Pilgrimage.

The spirit of the Old South in which Sigma Nu was founded sixty-six years before was felt through the Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter as it met in the stately halls of the Greenbrier Hotel where General Robert E. Lee was a frequent visitor during the days he headed Washington College in Lexington, at the time of Sigma Nu's beginning on the adjoining V. M. I. campus. The fancy dress ball in the Cameo Room of the Greenbrier was a most colorful feature of this convention. Another novel event was a polo game played between local teams. On one of these teams two Sigma Nus played; Tom McHarg and Charles Walter, commanders of Rho and Beta Theta Chapters at Missouri and Auburn, respectively.

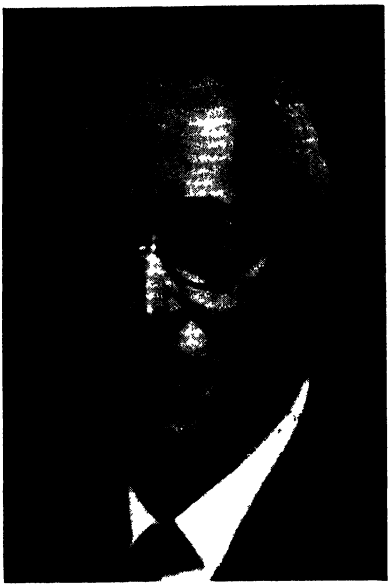
The historic Pilgrimage to the Virginia Military Institute was made Sunday, August 25, 1935, from White Sulphur Springs to Lexington by a special six-coach Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad train. The way led over the Blue Ridge Mountains, through gorges, down into the Valley of Virginia, along the source waters of the James River, to the North River on which the Founders came to Lexington by packet boat in 1866, to V. M. I. Sound motion picture cameras began to record this historic event in the life of the Fraternity as the pilgrims left the train at the small red brick station, and wound their way up the hill to the Washington and Lee campus. Through the Washington and Lee grounds, beside its handsome colonnaded buildings, Major Baldinger led the way to the Gates of the Virginia Military Institute and into the grounds of "the West Point of the South".



ROBERT W. MASSIE, ALPHA
V. M. I. initiate of 1875, and chairman of the Institute's Board of Visitors, who delivered the Memorial Address in Jackson Hall on the occasion of the Pilgrimage to V. M. I.

Jackson Memorial Hall with its stupendous mural of the glorious Battle of Newmarket, in which so many cadets, still young in their teens, were slaughtered and wounded for a cause, so noble in their minds, yet so tragic in its results, was the scene of the Memorial Service, preceding the dedication of the Founders' Memorial on the parade grounds. The thrilling occasion was opened when a uniformed V. M. I. color guard placed the national and state flags with the Sigma Nu colors before the platform on which was seated prominent Sigma Nus and distinguished guests. Regent Frank L. Yates, First Vice Regent LeRoy E. Kimball, Second Vice Regent Errett R. Newby,

Grand Treasurer John M. Roberts, Past Regents Albert H. Wilson, Borden Burr, George Arthur Smith, Roy L. Bovard, Trustee James H. Clarke, Jr.. Grand Historian John C. Scott, Grand Chaplain Joseph L. Stout, General LeJeune, Superintendent of V. M. I., and Dean Glover D. Hancock, Beta Xi, William Jewell, representing President Gaines of Washington and Lee, and the three honor guests of the occasion, H. McD. McCue, Alpha 1870, Robert W. Massie, Alpha 1875, and John R. Doles, Alpha 1881, were seated below the painting of the Battle of Newmarket. Regent Yates and Captain Massie, Chairman of the V. M. I. Board of Visitors, and Dean Hancock were the speakers.



H. McD. McCUE, ALPHA
1870 initiate at V. M. I., and the oldest Sigma Nu on the Pilgrimage.

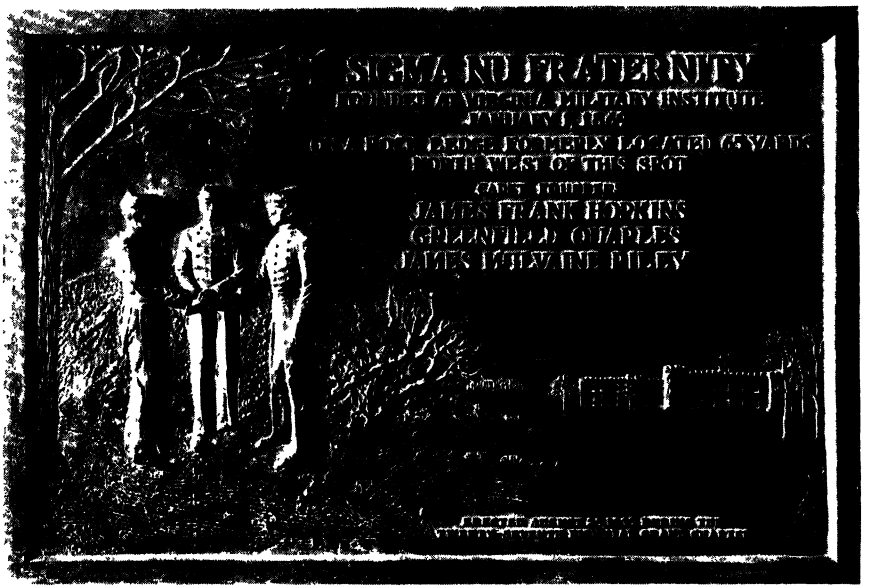
THE FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL

On the southeast corner of the broad parade grounds of the Virginia Military Institute just inside the main entrance to the campus, a great limestone boulder with an appropriate bronze tablet was dedicated to the memory of the Founders of Sigma Nu Fraternity. In making the formal presentation, which forms the striking climax to the Sigma Nu film, Regent Yates said, "To those who founded our Fraternity, James Frank Hopkins, Greenfield Quarles, James McIlvaine Riley, and to the principles of Love, Honor and Truth, on which it was founded, we dedicate this marker. Let it commemorate the founding of our Fraternity, let it evidence our undying gratitude." The three distinguished early members of Alpha Chapter present withdrew the Fraternity flag which draped the boulder covering the bronze tablet, depicting the Founders beside the Rock of Sigma Nu, their hands resting on the Holy Bible, taking their vows to Sigma Nu. In conclusion Regent Yates said, "On behalf of Sigma Nu in all lands, I commit to the friendly keeping of General LeJeune of the Virginia Military Institute this Memorial Marker."

In accepting the Memorial, General LeJeune paid tribute to Sigma Nu and its Founders. He said in part, "We take great pride in the fact that V. M. I. cadets presided at the birth of the Sigma Nu Fraternity. . . . we will do our utmost to guard and protect this shrine."

Here the West Point of the South, steeped in thrilling legends, abounding in historic fact and tradition, is moulding the high character of the young manhood of the new South as it did of the Old South when our Founders paraded on this same sod in 1869. With Alpha Chapter inactive since 1884, save for a brief revival from 1909 to 1915, Lambda Chapter at Washington and

Lee represents Sigma Nu well at the place of its birth. From its origin in 1882, in a strategic position, Lambda has contributed much to the Fraternity's growth and progress. This chapter's colonial home at the entrance to the Washington and Lee campus is a Sigma Nu shrine with the old Alpha chest in its chapter room. So here in Lexington, Virginia, on Sunday, August 25, 1935, the greatest number of Sigma Nus ever to visit the Fraternity's birthplace, representing ninety-six collegiate chapters and alumni groups throughout the land, gathered to do honor to the memory of its Founders and permanently mark this sacred shrine.

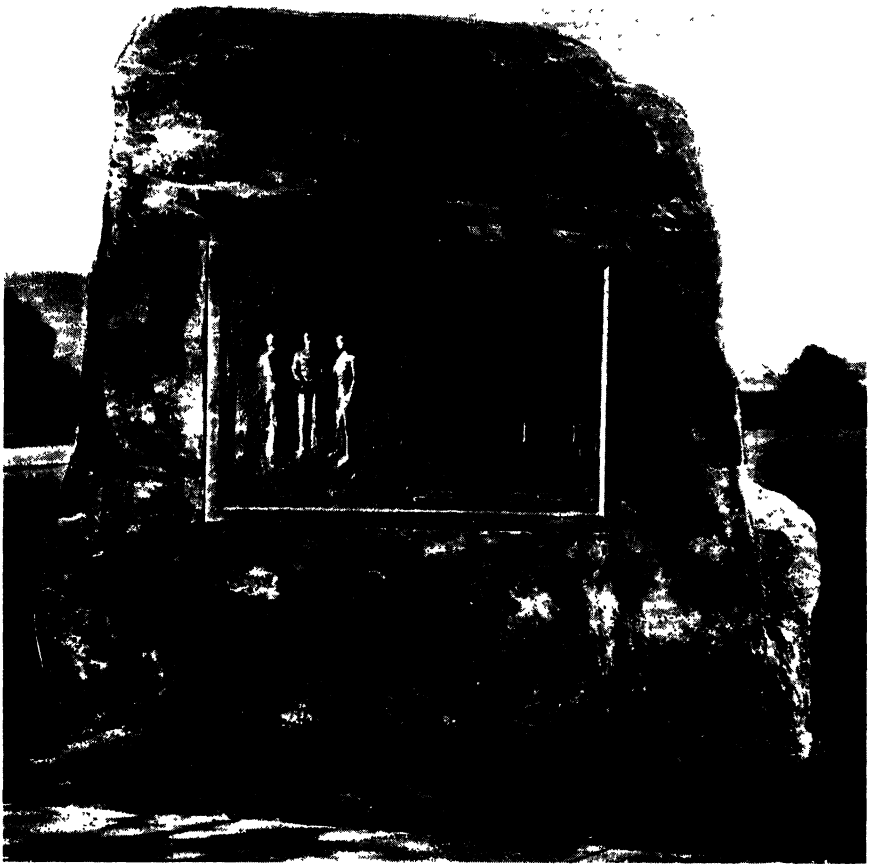


BRONZE TABLET MARKING THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE FOUNDING OF SIGMA NU AT LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA

None left Lexington on that Sunday afternoon without feeling the spirit of those three inspired youths who, in the yearning ardor of life's greater good, met beneath the stars on the Rock of Sigma Nu and with clasped hands, pledged to "believe in the life of love, to walk in the way of honor, and to serve in the light of truth." These cadets, Hopkins, Quarles and Riley, were indeed men among those honorable youths of whom it was written a hundred years ago that they would be "an honor to our country and our state, objects of honest pride to their instructors and fair specimens of citizen soldiers, attached to their native state, proud of her fame and ready in every time of deepest peril to vindicate her honor or defend her rights."

This Pilgrimage to Sigma Nu's shrine may well be in itself a memorial to Sigma Nu's achievement. And now, the low lying August sun sinks in the west. Across the parade grounds the shadows lengthen to mark the end of another day in the life of Sigma Nu. Silhouetted against the sylvan slopes of

distant mountains, the Founders' Memorial stands, a virgin rock, born in the unplumbed depths of time and destined to outlast every pilgrim to the shrine of Sigma Nu who having lived the life of love, having walked in the way of honor and having served in the light of truth. shall join that greater chapter where the eternal soul of brotherhood makes life everlasting.



THE FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL

Erected on the Virginia Military Institute Parade grounds by the Fraternity to mark the founding of Sigma Nu and dedicated at the time of the Pilgrimage, August 25, 1935.

ROLL OF
COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS

LIST OF GRAND AND GENERAL OFFICERS

LIST OF CONVENTIONS AND GRAND CHAPTERS

COLLEGIATE CHAPTER INDEX

INDEX OF NAMES

GENERAL INDEX

Roll of Collegiate Chapters

*Alpha	Virginia Military Institute, Lexington	1869-1884, 1909-1915
Beta	University of Virginia, Charlottesville	1870
Gamma	Bailey Law School, Asheville, North Carolina	1871
	Duke University, Durham, North Carolina	1931
Delta	Tarboro, North Carolina	1874
	University of South Carolina, Columbia	1886
Epsilon	Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia	1883
*Zeta	Central University, Richmond, Kentucky	1883–1901
*Eta	Mercer University, Macon, Georgia	1884–1933
Theta	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa	1874
Iota	Howard College, East Lake, Alabama	1879
*Kappa	North Georgia College, Dahlonega	1881–1933
Lambda	Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia	1882
Mu	University of Georgia, Athens	1873
Nu	Kansas University, Lawrence	1884
Xi	Emory University, Emory University, Georgia	1884
*Omicron	Bethel College, Russellville, Kentucky	1884–1903
Pi	Lehigh University, South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania	1885
Rho	University of Missouri, Columbia	1886
Sigma	Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee	1886
*Tau	South Carolina Military Academy, Charleston	1886–1890
Upsilon	University of Texas, Austin	1886
Phi	Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge	1887
*Chi	Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa	1888–1913
Psi	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	1888
*Beta Alpha	Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut	1889–1892
Beta Beta	DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana	1890
Beta Gamma	Missouri Valley College, Marshall, Missouri	1891
*Beta Delta	Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa	1891–1892
*Beta Epsilon	Upper Iowa University, Fayette	1891–1891
Beta Zeta	Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana	1891
Beta Eta	Indiana University, Bloomington	1892
Beta Theta	Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn	1890
Beta Iota	Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio	1892
Beta Kappa	Southwest Kansas College, Winfield	1892–1897
	Kansas State College, Manhattan	1913
*Beta Lambda	Central College of Missouri, Fayette	1892–1902
Beta Mu	University of Iowa, Iowa City	1893
Beta Nu	Ohio State University, Columbus	1891
Beta Xi	William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri	1894
Beta Omicron	University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee	1889
*Beta Pi	University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois	1895–1897
	(See Gamma Rho Chapter)	
Beta Rho	University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia	1894
Beta Sigma	University of Vermont, Burlington	1898
Beta Tau	North Carolina State College, West Raleigh	1895
Beta Upsilon	Rose Polytechnic Institute, Terre Haute, Indiana	1895
*Beta Phi	Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana	1888–1934
Beta Chi	Stanford University, Palo Alto, California	1891
Beta Psi	University of California, Berkeley	1892
Gamma Alpha	Georgia School of Technology, Atlanta	1896
Gamma Beta	Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois	1898
Gamma Gamma	Albion College, Albion, Michigan	1895
Gamma Delta	Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey	1900
Gamma Epsilon	LaFayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania	1900

* Inactive Chapters.

Gamma Zeta	University of Oregon, Eugene	1900
Gamma Eta	Colorado School of Mines, Golden	1901
Gamma Theta	Cornell University, Ithaca, New York	1901
Gamma Iota	University of Kentucky, Lexington	1902
Gamma Kappa	University of Colorado, Boulder	1902
Gamma Lambda	University of Wisconsin, Madison	1902
Gamma Mu	University of Illinois, Champaign	1902
Gamma Nu	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	1902
Gamma Xi	Missouri School of Mines, Rolla	1903
Gamma Omicron	Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri	1903
Gamma Pi	University of West Virginia, Morgantown	1904
*Gamma Rho	University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois	1904–1934
	(See Beta Pi Chapter)	
Gamma Sigma	Iowa State College, Ames	1904
Gamma Tau	University of Minnesota, Minneapolis	1904
Gamma Upsilon	University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	1904
Gamma Phi	University of Montana, Missoula	1905
Gamma Chi	University of Washington, Seattle	1896
Gamma Psi	Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York	1906
Delta Alpha	Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, Ohio	1907
Delta Beta	Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire	1907
Delta Gamma	Columbia University, New York, New York	1908
Delta Delta	Pennsylvania State College, State College	1909
Delta Epsilon	University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City	1909
Delta Zeta	Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio	1909
Delta Eta	University of Nebraska, Lincoln	1909
Delta Theta	Lombard College, Galesburg, Illinois	1891–1930
	Knox College, Galesburg	1930
Delta Iota	State College of Washington, Pullman	1910
Delta Kappa	University of Delaware, Newark	1911
Delta Lambda	Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island	1912
Delta Mu	Stetson University, DeLand, Florida	1913
Delta Nu	University of Maine, Orono	1913
Delta Xi	University of Nevada, Reno	1914
Delta Omicron	University of Idaho, Moscow	1915
Delta Pi	George Washington University, Washington, D. C.	1915
Delta Rho	Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins	1915
Delta Sigma	Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	1916
Delta Tau	Oregon State College, Corvallis	1917
Delta Upsilon	Colgate University, Hamilton, New York	1917
Delta Phi	University of Maryland, College Park	1917
Delta Chi	Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut	1918
Delta Psi	Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine	1918
Epsilon Alpha	University of Arizona, Tucson	1918
Epsilon Beta	Drury College, Springfield, Missouri	1919
Epsilon Gamma	Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut	1920
Epsilon Delta	University of Wyoming, Laramie	1920
Epsilon Epsilon	Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater	1920
Epsilon Zeta	University of Florida, Gainesville	1920
Epsilon Eta	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	1921
Epsilon Theta	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge	1922
Epsilon Iota	College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia	1922
Epsilon Kappa	University of North Dakota, Grand Forks	1923
Epsilon Lambda	University of Utah, Salt Lake City	1924
Epsilon Mu	Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana	1926
Epsilon Nu	Miami University, Oxford, Ohio	1927
Epsilon Xi	University of Mississippi, Oxford	1927
Epsilon Omicron	University of Southern California, Los Angeles	1930
Epsilon Pi	University of California at Los Angeles	1930
Epsilon Rho	Michigan State College, East Lansing	1934
Epsilon Sigma	Southwestern, Memphis, Tennessee	1934

* Inactive Chapters

Sigma Nu Fraternity

FOUNDED AT VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE, JANUARY 1, 1869

Founders

*James Frank. Hopkins, Alpha No. 1, '70; born December 30, 1845; died December 15, 1913.

*Greenfield Quarles, Alpha No. 2, '70; born April 1, 1847; died January 14, 1921.

*James McIlvaine Riley, Alpha No. 3, '70; born May 16, 1849; died June 8, 1911.

Grand Officers

REGENTS

*James M. Riley, Alpha	1870-1880
*Thomas W. Clark, Theta	1880-1882
*William H. Wade, Alpha	1882-1884
*Edward R. Arthur, Alpha	1884-1886
*Daniel W. Langton, Jr., Theta	1886-1890
*Rawson Bennett, Nu	1890-1894
Isaac P. Robinson, Lambda	1894-1898
Hamilton M. Dawes, Rho	1898-1902
George M. Cook, Beta Eta	1902-1904
*Isadore Dyer, Beta-Beta Phi	1904-1906
Francis V. Keesling, Beta Chi	1906-1908
Wade H. Ellis, Lambda	1908-1910
Albert H. Wilson, Beta Iota	1910-1912
Arthur F. Krippner, Gamma Lambda	1912-1915
*Walter J. Sears, Nu-Beta Nu	1915-1918
Borden H. Burr, Theta-Lambda	1918-1920
Walter E. Myers, Beta Iota	1920-1921
George Arthur Smith, Beta Zeta	1921-1923
John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi	1923-1926
*Oscar Palmour, Kappa	1926-1927
Orville M. Barnett, Rho	1927-1929
Roy L. Bovard, Delta Delta	1929-1931
Otto K. Grau, Beta Chi	1931-1933
Frank L. Yates, Gamma Pi-Delta Pi	1933-1935
Le Roy E. Kimball, Gamma Gamma	1935-

* Deceased.

VICE REGENTS

*James F. Hopkins, Alpha	1870-1880
*Muscoe L. Spotswood, Alpha	1880-1882
*Jacob P. Imboden, Kappa	1882-1884
*John Alexander Howard, Kappa	1884-1886
*George M. Napier, Kappa	1886-1887
*William H. Wade, Alpha	1887-1888
*Clarence W. Murphey, Lambda	1888-1892
*Edwin B. Parker, Upsilon	1892-1894
James W. Noel, Beta Zeta	1894-1896
*James A. Clark, Delta Theta	1896-1898
William L. Kemp, Mu	1898-1900
George M. Cook, Beta Eta	1900-1902
Charles W. Jones, Beta Mu	1902-1904
Francis V. Keesling, Beta Chi	1904-1906
*A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta	1906-1908
Albert H. Wilson, Beta Iota	1908-1910
Arthur F. Krippner, Gamma Lambda	1910-1912
Wayne P. Sewell, Eta	1912-1915
Borden H. Burr, Theta-Lambda	1915-1918
George Arthur Smith, Beta Zeta	1918-1921
John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi	1921-1923
*Oscar Palmour, Kappa	1923-1926
Orville M. Barnett, Rho	1926-1927
Hill Ferguson, Theta	1927-1929
Otto K. Grau, Beta Chi	1929-1931
Frank L. Yates, Gamma Pi-Delta Pi	1931-1933
Le Roy E. Kimball, Gamma Gamma	1933-1935
Errett R. Newby, Delta Epsilon	1935-

SECOND VICE REGENTS

Malcolm C. Sewell, Beta Kappa	1929-1931
Le Roy E. Kimball, Gamma Gamma	1931-1933
Errett R. Newby, Delta Epsilon	1933-1935
Edward H. Hashinger, Nu	1935-

GRAND TREASURERS

*Daniel W. Langton, Jr., Theta	1884-1886
George Y. Forman, Zeta	1886-1887
*John Alexander Howard, Kappa	1887-1888
*James W. Ouzts, Tau	1888-1890
*Bixby Willis, Lambda	1890-1892
James E. Goodrich, Rho	1892-1894
Carl L. Clemans, Chi-Beta Chi	1894-1896
*Henry M. Furman, Phi	1896-1898

Ferd H. Heywood, Beta Nu 1898-1908
Samuel F. Pegues, Theta 1908-1926
John M. Roberts, Beta Gamma-Beta Pi 1926-

GRAND RECORDERS

Isaac P. Robinson, Lambda 1882-1884
*Rawson Bennett, Nu 1884-1888
Grant W. Harrington, Nu 1888-1894
Clarence E. Woods, Zeta 1894-1913
*Walter J. Sears, Nu-Beta Nu 1913-1915

GRAND COUNSELORS

*A. Miller Belfield, Beta Zeta 1904-1906
Dallas Flannagan, Alpha 1906-1908
Robert J. Bannister, Beta Mu 1908-1912
Borden H. Burr, Theta-Lambda 1912-1915
Walter E. Myers, Beta Iota 1915-1920
Ernest L. Williams, Gamma Kappa 1920-1921
*Oscar Palmour, Kappa 1921-1923
Orville M. Barnett, Rho 1923-1926
John W. Esterline, Beta Zeta 1926-1927
Roy L. Bovard, Delta Delta 1927-1929

GRAND HISTORIANS

Isaac P. Robinson, Lambda 1884-1888
*John Alexander Howard, Kappa 1888-1903
*Walter J. Sears, Nu-Beta Nu 1903-1913
Burton P. Sears, Nu 1913-1921
John C. Scott, Beta Zeta 1921-

GRAND CHAPLAINS

*William M. Walton, D. D., Alpha 1904-1908
Paul M. Spencer, D. D., Beta Beta 1908-1920
John R. Sampey, D. D., LL. D., Iota 1920-1921
Harry C. Fraser, Delta Gamma 1921-1927
Joseph L. Stout, Ph. D., Beta Beta 1927-1935
Thomas H. Wright, Beta Omicron 1935-

General Officers

General Secretaries

*Bixby Willis, Lambda	1915-1917
Edwin W. Dunlavy, Beta Beta	1917-1921
Ernest L. Williams, Gamma Kappa	1921-1928
Vernon M. Williams, Gamma Tau	1928-1931
Malcolm C. Sewell, Beta Kappa	1931-

Assistant General Secretaries

John C. Scott, Beta Zeta	1915-1916
Harry A. Rider, Delta Zeta	1917-1928
Charles Edward Thomas, Beta Omicron	1929-

Editors of The Delta

*John Alexander Howard, Kappa	1883-1886
Grant W. Harrington, Nu	1886-1894
Clarence E. Woods, Zeta	1894-1913
*Walter J. Sears, Nu-Beta Nu	1913-1915
John C. Scott, Beta Zeta	1915-1916
Edwin W. Dunlavy, Beta Beta	1916-1921
Harry A. Rider, Delta Zeta	1921-1928
Charles Edward Thomas, Beta Omicron	1929-

* Deceased.

Conventions and Grand Chapters

First Convention Nashville, Tenn.
July 9-10, 1884

Second Convention Lexington, Ky.
August 4-5, 1886

Third Grand Chapter Birmingham, Ala.
August 9-11, 1887

Fourth Grand Chapter Asheville, N. C.
August 14-16, 1888

Fifth Grand Chapter Chattanooga, Tenn.
August 12-14, 1890

Sixth Grand Chapter St. Louis, Mo.
August 9-10, 1892

Seventh Grand Chapter Indianapolis, Ind.
October 9-11, 1894

Eighth Grand Chapter St. Louis, Mo.
October 13-15, 1896

Special Grand Chapter Nashville, Tenn.
October 13, 1897

Ninth Grand Chapter Atlanta, Ga.
July 20-22, 1898

Tenth Grand Chapter Chicago, Ill.
October 17-19, 1900

Eleventh Grand Chapter Indianapolis, Ind.
December 31, 1902– January 1-2, 1903

Twelfth Grand Chapter New Orleans, La.
December 28-30, 1904

Thirteenth Grand Chapter Chicago, Ill.
December 31, 1906—January 1-2, 1907

Fourteenth Grand Chapter Chicago, Ill.
December 31, 1908– January 1-2, 1909

Fifteenth Grand Chapter Indianapolis, Ind.
December 28-30, 1910

Sixteenth Grand Chapter Atlanta, Ga.
December 30-31, 1912– January 1, 1913

Seventeenth Grand Chapter Denver, Colo.
August 25-28, 1915

Eighteenth Grand Chapter Cleveland, Ohio
December 31, 1917—January 1-2, 1918

Nineteenth Grand Chapter St. Louis, Mo.
December 31, 1919—January 1-2, 1920

Twentieth Grand Chapter Philadelphia, Pa.
December 29-31, 1921

Twenty-first Grand Chapter Birmingham, Ala.
December 28-31, 1923

Twenty-second Grand Chapter West Baden, Ind.
December 30-31, 1925—January 1, 1926

Twenty-third Grand Chapter Washington, D. C.
December 29-31, 1927

Twenty-fourth Grand Chapter Chicago, Ill.
December 27-30, 1929

Twenty-fifth Grand Chapter Bigwin Inn, Ontario
August 28-31, 1931

Twenty-sixth Grand Chapter Mackinac Island, Mich.
August 24-26, 1933

Twenty-seventh Grand Chapter White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.
August 23-26, 1935

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